metro®

WEEKEND
PHILADELPHIA
March 8-10, 2013

local

## Nearly $2M worth of pot seized

Suspect has four prior narcotic arrests Nearly 200 plants found {page 04}

women's issue

## Violence is a 'hidden epidemic'

Victims share stories of pain, suffering and redemption {pages 10-13}

going out

## Fill your plate this weekend

Brewer's Plate returns for the ninth time
Eat for a cause {page 30}

books

## Tom Folson hops to a Hopper bio

The actor's life was a case of truth being stranger than fiction {page 26}

Actress Michelle Williams speaks about being in a nice movie for a change in 'Oz the Great and Powerful' A rundown of the series' numerous and sometimes bizarre incarnations Latest return to Oz not 'great' but occasionally 'powerful' {pages 14-16}

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# State board to close 23 city schools, four spared

- Four schools were saved after marathon Schools Reform Commission meeting
- Two more elementary schools will be voted on later this year, officials said

Twenty-three local schools will close, but four have been spared.

The Schools Reform Commission, the state-appointed board that controls the school district, approved shuttering 23 public schools. Four schools — Thomas M. Peirce Elementary, Bayard Taylor, Roosevelt Theodore Middle School and Paul Robeson High School — are saved.

Two more school closures, M. H. Stanton and Beeber elementary schools, will be voted on later this year.

Since Superintendent William Hite first brought the plan forward in December 2012 planning to close 37 schools, community activists, elected officials, parents and teachers begged for a one-year freeze on school closings. In February, Hite reduced the number of closures from 37 to 29.

Thirty-four community activists spoke out at the conference Thursday against the closings.

Christina Moresi, a graduate of public schools, spoke on behalf of Robert Fulton Elementary.

Moresi said the schools are the cornerstone of the neighborhood. For some, the schools are the children's safe haven, she said.

"If you knock down the schools," she said, "you might as well build more prisons."

Before the vote, multiple protestors were arrested, including American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten.

Inside the auditorium, protesters locked arms and blocked entrances in an attempt to prevent the five-member board from voting. Nineteen protesters were arrested.

Hite, along with Mayor Michael Nutter and other SRC members, have long stood pat. The officials claim the district is broke and cannot bankroll empty classrooms and schools must close.

Hite has said the plan will save $24.5 million per year, minus transition costs.

**Tommy Rowan**
*tommy.rowan@metro.us*

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Protesters from all over the tristate area called for the SRC to change their minds.

**Quoted**

**"If you knock down the schools, you might as well build more prisons."**
CHRISTINA MORESI

**23**
Schools were granted closure today, with two more up for a vote later this year

**4**
City schools were saved

**19**
Protesters were arrested

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ A vocal bunch

## 'Not ready to quit'

Several hundred people gathered outside the School District of Philadelphia headquarters Thursday afternoon for one last protest before the state-board voted on their fate.

Students, parents and teachers spilled out onto North Broad Street, blocking traffic and chanting in unison to spare the 27 schools set for closure.

Samuel Punmi stood outside a circle of cheering students.

"You tired yet?" They chanted, "You ready to quit?" Punmi shook his head.

If any good can come from this mess, he said, the students are learning to stand up for what they believe in.

"They're fighters," he said.

**In the news**

## $2K

A group of Latin American and Asian students working at McDonald's fast-food restaurants in Central, Pa,. told The Patriot-News of Harrisburg they were charged $2,000 a month to live in cramped basements. The students said they received minimum wage but worked fewer hours than promised and had housing costs deducted from their paychecks. The students said their sleeping quarters were in the basement house, where some slept on a mattress next to a furnace, a boiler and an oil tank. METRO

**Local tweet**

"Only people shoveling anything this week have been the local TV weather types forecasting 4-6" of snow"
@HOLLYMOORE

**In the news**

## Two charged in Temple University home invasion

PHILADELPHIA. Two men have been charged in the Monday assault and robbery of four female Temple University students, officials with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office said Thursday.

Tyree Johnson, 19, and Malcolm Murray, 18, have been hit with a slew of charges, including aggravated assault, robbery and burglary. Bail is set for both at $800,000. A third man may be involved.

PHILADELPHIA POLICE

Police said the men followed the student home Monday night and forced her inside her off-campus apartment on North 18th Street. The men reportedly bound the woman and her three roommates, duct-taped their mouths and robbed them. No injuries were reported.

The two suspects are scheduled for a preliminary hearing March 21. METRO

## Council wants mayor to honor contract

CITY HALL. City Councilman David Oh on Thursday introduced legislation calling on Mayor Michael Nutter's administration to pay part of the disputed contract for city firefighters union Local 22 and set aside a dedicated fund to make sure any future monies owed will be readily available.

METRO FILE PHOTO

▶ David Oh

"As we look at the budget, which we're going to hear about from the mayor next week, at this time there's a dispute between the firefighters and the administration over the amount of that contract," Oh said.

He noted the firefighters states the contract will cost $66 million to honor, while the administration has put that number at $154 million. Oh wants the administration to pay the union the former sum now, then deposit 50 percent of the latter monies into a dedicated fund over the next four years.

"My concern, and I think the concern of all of council, is, should a court order this money be paid in one lump sum, we will not be able to pay that sum without having to either borrow the money, cut services or raise taxes," Oh said.

"I think it's also not a good idea to try to use that money — which is not uncontroverted — as a negotiating tactic." METRO

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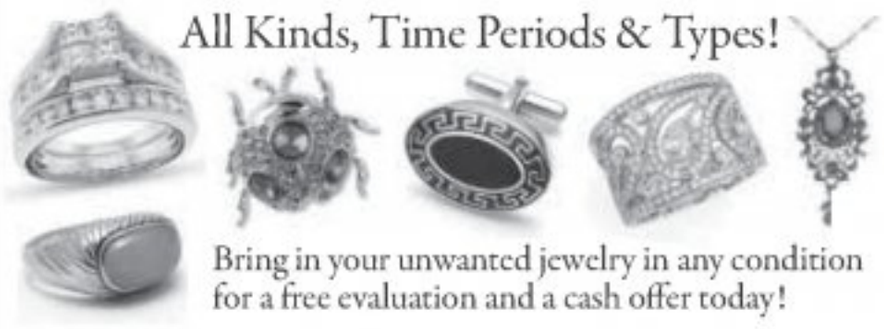

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RAPID CASH FOR GOLD
**THE PLAZA AT THE KING OF PRUSSIA MALL**
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA
*UPPER LEVEL ADJACENT TO TOMMY BAHAMA*
MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM
SUN: 11AM-6PM

RAPID CASH FOR GOLD
**THE COURT AT THE KING OF PRUSSIA MALL**
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA
*UPPER LEVEL BETWEEN BLOOMINGDALE'S & CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN*
MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM
SUN: 11AM-6PM

RAPID CASH FOR GOLD
**THE HAMILTON MALL**
MAYS LANDING, NJ
*LOWER LEVEL ADJACENT TO JCPENNEY*
MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM
SUN: 11AM-6PM

RAPID CASH FOR GOLD
**COVENTRY MALL**
POTTSTOWN, PA
*ADJACENT TO T.G.I. FRIDAY'S*
MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM
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# Montco car stop leads to nearly $2M pot bust

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ The investigation crossed county lines into Philadelphia, said Capt. Thomas Davidson of the Narcotics Unit.

Police arrested one man and seized $1.9 million in pot from an Olney home Tuesday after officers sniffed something funny during a Montgomery County car stop.

"On March 5, Cheltenham officers stopped a vehicle and, as a result of that stop, found approximately about a pound and a half of marijuana," Montgomery County Assistant District Attorney Nathan Schadler said Thursday at the Philadelphia Police Forensic Science Center, where the air was thick with the hazy scent of weed from the bulging plastic trash bags laid on the table.

"They were further able to develop information from that stop, taking notice of the driver, the way he was dressed and the fact that there were signs that there may be additional marijuana or a grow operation based on the information provided by the officer that did the stop to his fellow officers in Cheltenham."

Schadler said police noticed the suspect had dirt under his fingernails.

"They also noticed that the marijuana that was recovered in the car had stems on it — recently potted marijuana — so they took that coupled together and actually traveled to the location."

Eugene Horsch, 31, the passenger in the initial car stop and the owner of the home in Olney, was taken into custody. Authorities believe Horsch was the main player in the pot ring despite the large quantity of the stuff recovered.

**Alex Wigglesworth**
*awigglesworth@metro.us*

## Cooperation between counties

Authorities said the investigation's outcome is a testament to cooperation between counties.

"This case is an excellent example of Philadelphia and Montgomery County coming together to work what turned out to be a large-scale marijuana operation case," Schadler said. "Officers worked from the 5th into the 6th to develop probable cause for a search warrant on the target residence and were able to execute that warrant and find the items that you see here." METRO

**Music.** Brilliant

▶ The latest British invasion landed at SEPTA's Market East on Thursday afternoon.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

**The George Weldon Jazz Trio performed for crowds Thursday afternoon at SEPTA's Market East Station. The live act was intended for those going to the Philadelphia Flower Show. This year's theme, which is "Brilliant!," has a British feel. The "Queen Mum" showed up for photos with passengers.** METRO

## Man sentenced in bat killing

Philadelphia man Miguel Davilla, 31, pleaded guilty Thursday to third-degree murder for a 2009 incident where he allegedly beat a man to death with a baseball bat and built a coffin for him, officials said.

He was sentenced to 20 to 40 years in prison. On Feb. 28, 2009, reports say Davilla attempted to evict Ruben Woodsen, 53, from a boarding house in Fairmount. Davilla was changing the locks on the door when Woodsen returned home. Davilla responded by striking Woodsen 10 times with a baseball bat. METRO

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**Phoenixville Hospital**
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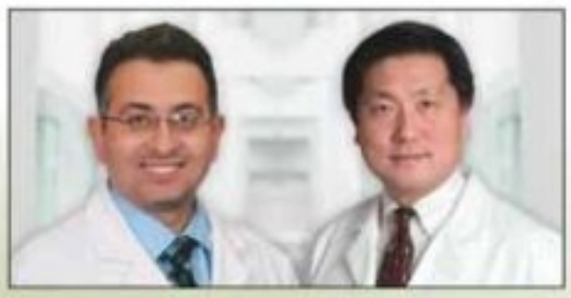

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**In the news**

▶ Hooking up here?

FILE PHOTO

## Philly makes list of best airports for hookups

Philadelphia International Airport has been ranked as the fifth-best airport for hookups.

Dating website MeetAtTheAirport.com released its list of the "The Top Airports in the U.S. to Hook Up."

The rankings are based on Yelp ratings, airport size, bars, food and entertainment.

The top five consisted of all international airports. Orlando International Airport flew in at No. 1, followed by Miami International, Newark International and Logan International.

METRO

# City Council proposals would revolutionize vacant land use

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ This city-owned vacant lot in Point Breeze in South Philly could be turned into money to prevent tax hikes.

As the annual budget battle quickly approaches, City Council is searching between the proverbial cushions to find creative revenue sources that do not entail more tax hikes.

Two packages of legislation introduced at council on Thursday would revolutionize the way the city deals with vacant properties, possibly netting millions from land parcels that now sit empty.

"We as a council have to continue to look at ways the administration could streamline our processes so we can create new revenue and further expand our tax base," said Councilwoman Maria Quinones Sanchez.

Sanchez and Councilman Bill Green re-introduced legislation to create a Philadelphia Land Bank, as well as a Vacant Property Review Committee to speed up the sale of tax-delinquent parcels.

"I have long fought to streamline redevelopment in collaboration with non-profit and private developers," Sanchez said.

"These bills will create one governmental authority to take control. The Land Bank will help eliminate blight, stabilize our neighborhoods and put vacant property back on the tax roll."

Council President Darrell Clarke proposed "Rebuilding Philadelphia," a package of five bills also aimed at stimulating the sale and development of vacant properties, targeted at city-owned parcels.

"The city of Philadelphia has a numbers problem, and timely collection of taxes owed is just a partial solution," Clarke said.

"City-owned vacant properties are a drain on our budget to the tune of $20 million. We must create incentives for developers, businesses and residents to bring those properties back online so they are once again contributing to the community."

That legislation includes bills offering incentives for developers to create affordable housing and economic development projects and discounts for low-income residents and for those who build and live on properties for at least five years.

"The city of Philadelphia cannot stick its hands in the taxpayer's pocket every time there is a fiscal crisis," Clarke said, noting the city must also work on expanding its revenue base.

"Getting vacant, city-owned properties up and running again is a no-brainer."

**By the numbers**

**40K**
The number of vacant properties in Philadelphia

**25%**
Of them are city-owned.

**$20M**
Is spent by the city each year on maintaining vacant city-owned parcels

**Alex Wigglesworth**
awigglesworth@metro.us

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# How to Outsmart a Millionaire

*Only the "Robin Hood of Watchmakers" can steal the spotlight from a luxury legend for under $200!*

I wasn't looking for trouble. I sat in a café, sipping my espresso and enjoying the quiet. Then it got noisy. Mr. Bigshot rolled up in a roaring high-performance Italian sports car, dropping attitude like his $14,000 watch made it okay for him to be rude. That's when I decided to roll up my sleeves and teach him a lesson.

"Nice watch," I said, pointing to his and holding up mine. He nodded like we belonged to the same club. We did, but he literally paid 100 times more for his membership. Bigshot bragged about his five-figure purchase, a luxury heavyweight from the titan of high-priced timepieces. I told him that mine was the ***Stauer Corso, a 27-jewel automatic classic now available for only $179.*** And just like that, the man was at a loss for words.

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**Our specialty is vintage automatic movements.** The ***Corso*** is driven by a self-winding design, inspired by a 1923 patent. Your watch will never need batteries. Every second of power is generated by the movement of your body. The dial features a trio of complications including a graphic day/night display. The ***Corso*** secures with a two-toned stainless steel bracelet and is water-resistant to 3 ATM.

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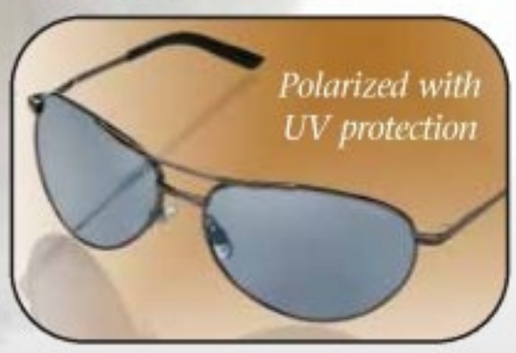


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Opinion

**TOM FOREMAN**
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN

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CNN=POLITICS

# DRONING OUT

**Like a latter-day Jimmy Stewart, his eyes wild and his voice fading, U.S. Sen. Rand Paul from Kentucky stood up in the Capitol this week and launched a filibuster. That's right, an honest-to-heaven, old-fashioned, talk-until-your-teeth-fall-out filibuster. For close to 13 hours, he held the floor and demanded that the White House give him some answers about the use of drone aircraft. And I loved every minute of it. Not because I have some particular opinion about drones, but for the sheer drama of it all.**

Washington is a town ill-suited to surprises. Most problems here, such as budget issues, foreign entanglements and whatever Biden will be saying next week, are as predictable as duck pee in a pond. Oh, sure, we get the odd sex scandal now and then (and for my money, the odder the better!), but even those seem like old hat now.

So there is something refreshing about what Sen. Paul did: standing up unexpectedly, irritating some of his fellow senators and prattling on about what surely even he knew from the first word was a lost cause.

**Quoted**

**"That's kind of how it went with Paul. At first, everyone giggled. Then some scowled."**

That was the beauty of it.

As Jimmy Stewart notes near the end of his famous stand in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," lost causes "are the only causes worth fighting for." Then some lawmakers start listening to his rant, and his bitter opponent is guilted into coming clean. That's kind of how it went with Paul. At first, everyone giggled. Then some scowled. Then a few senators came to his aid. And in the end, by risking disapproval and scorn, by bucking the powers in both parties, he prodded the White House into answering his questions.

And his lost cause was not lost anymore.

*– CNN's **Tom Foreman** is a regular on "AC360°"/www.ac360.com and "The Situation Room."*

*Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send submissions to letters@metro.us.*

# Son-in-law of bin Laden arrested in Jordan, now in NY

GETTY IMAGES

A son-in-law of Osama bin Laden who served as al Qaeda's spokesman was arrested in Jordan and then brought to New York in an operation led by Jordanian authorities and the FBI, U.S. government sources said on Thursday.

The sources said Suleiman Abu Ghaith, a militant who appeared in videos representing al Qaeda after the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001, had initially been picked up in Turkey.

The Turkish government deported him to Jordan, said the sources, where local authorities and the FBI took custody of him. He had been brought to the United States in the last few days, a law enforcement source said.

The Justice Department declined to comment and the FBI did not immediately respond to requests for comment. **REUTERS**

## Trial will likely be held in NYC

Abu Ghaith is now being held in a detention facility in the New York City area and is expected to be charged and eventually brought to trial in federal court. The trial would most likely be in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, blocks from the site of the World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the 9/11 attacks, a law enforcement source said.

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# N. Korea threatens nuclear strike, UN expands sanctions

North Korea threatened the United States on Thursday with a preemptive nuclear strike, raising the level of rhetoric just before the U.N. Security Council approved new sanctions against the reclusive country.

The White House said North Korea's threats would only lead to Pyongyang's further international isolation and declared that the United States was "fully capable" of defending against any North Korean missile attack.

China's U.N. Ambassador Li Baodong said Beijing wanted to see "full implementation" of the new U.N. Security Council resolution that tightens financial restrictions on Pyongyang and cracks down on its attempts to ship and receive banned cargo.

North Korea has accused the United States of using military drills in South Korea as a launchpad for a nuclear war and has scrapped the armistice with Washington that ended hostilities in the 1950-53 Korean War.

A North Korean general said on Tuesday that Pyongyang was scrapping the armistice. But the two sides remain technically at war, as the civil war did not end with a treaty. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ South Korean activists during a rally denouncing North Korea's nuclear test.

## Tensions bring more sanctions

With tensions high on the Korean peninsula, the U.N. Security Council voted unanimously to expand its sanctions on North Korea.

The new sanctions were agreed after three weeks of negotiations between the United States and China, which has a history of resisting tough measures against its ally and neighbor.

## 'Fully capable' of defense

The White House said North Korea's threat of a nuclear strike on the United States would only lead to Pyongyang's further international isolation and declared that Washington is "fully capable" of defending against any North Korean missile attack. White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters that North Korea "will achieve nothing by threats or provocations," when asked about Pyongyang's warning that it had a "right to preemptive nuclear attack" against its foes.

## In the news

### Clinton tops Christie, Biden, Cuomo in 2016 presidential poll

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton leads among prospective 2016 presidential candidates in a poll that shows the Democrat besting New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and two other Republicans.

Christie holds the strongest position among his party's potential White House hopefuls. He's ahead when pitted against two other Democrats mentioned as White House contenders: Vice President Joe Biden and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, according to the survey of U.S. voters by Hamden, Connecticut-based Quinnipiac University. **BLOOMBERG**

### Senate approves Brennan as new CIA director

The Senate confirmed John Brennan as the Obama administration's next director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Senate voted 63-34 in favor of Brennan, overcoming Republican Sen. Rand Paul's attempt to slow the White House counter-terrorism adviser from becoming the next head of the CIA.

Paul, who spent nearly 13 hours speaking on the Senate floor on Wednesday, was irate about the reluctance of Obama administration officials to declare that "targeted killings" of American citizens on U.S. soil were unconstitutional. **REUTERS**

**12**

**Over 12 hours on the floor, Sen. Rand Paul, filibustered to block Senate confirmation of John Brennan.**

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# 'HIDDEN EPIDEMIC'

**Letter from the editor**

## Too close to home

*This is serious: Rihanna's back with Chris Brown.*

*Three years after he bit, clawed and punched her from across a Lamborghini console, it seems from recent appearances, photographs and social media posts that pop superstars Rihanna and Chris Brown have reconciled and are still in a relationship.*

*India is in the spotlight: The trial of five men charged with the brutal gang rape and murder of a young medical student has been fast-tracked, while three sisters – aged 5, 9 and 11 – who went missing from their village on Valentine's Day were found raped, murdered and dumped into a well.*

*"Blade Runner" Oscar Pistorius is accused of murdering his girlfriend, amid accusations of paranoia and an obsession with firearms.*

*Violence against women is in the headlines, but it's also in millions of bedrooms, workplaces and relationships – behind closed doors, silent mouths and averted eyes.*

*In recognition of Women's Day, Metro and the United Nations aim to raise awareness of violence against women across the globe, and it's our hope that in Women's Days to come, we can celebrate the full eradication of violence.*

*No mother, sister or daughter – no woman – ever earned it, deserved it or "asked for it." Raise your voice with ours.*

**MAGGIE SAMWAYS, GLOBAL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

**Despite decades of public-awareness even in developed countries In partnership**

On one January day in Guatemala, six women and two girls were murdered. "I haven't been able to find a reason for the murder," says mother Rosa Franco, whose 15-year-old daughter Maria Isabel was killed. "But such is life as a woman in this country full of corrupt authorities. I suspect several people, including a 45-year-old drug dealer who'd been harassing my daughter since he asked to go out with her but she refused."

Welcome to our 21st-century world, where one-third of women will become victims of violence at least once in their lifetime. In Peru, their fate is even worse: "We have 10 femicides a month," says Maria Ysabel Cedano Garcia of the local women's rights group Demus.

Perhaps even more perplexing is that violence against women remains common in developed countries. In Sweden, 46 percent of women report having been victims of violence. Women and girls make up 80 percent of people trafficked globally each year. "Violence against women is a hidden epidemic, and 'hidden' is a very important word," notes Ann Veneman, the former executive director of UNICEF. "We all know that women are getting raped as a weapon of war in places like the DRC, but in the developed world,

# VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN RIFE IN THE WEST, TOO

One in three women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. And this is not just a problem in the developing world. On the contrary, in countries like Denmark, Australia, the Czech Republic and the United States, over half of women report having been subjected to violence. Asia remains the world's safest continent for women.

Proportion of women who've been subjected to violence by their intimate partners (boyfriends, fiances, husbands) at least once in their lifetime

10% 50% 100%

1 United States
2 Costa Rica
3 Colombia
4 Ecuador
5 Peru
6 Chile
7 Brazil
8 United Kingdom
9 Netherlands
10 Denmark
11 Germany
12 Finland
13 Poland
14 Czech Republic
15 Russian Federation
16 Italy
17 Turkey
18 Egypt
19 Ethiopia
20 Uganda
21 Democratic Republic of the Congo
22 Cameroon
23 China
24 Hong Kong
25 Bangladesh
26 Australia
27 New Zealand

### SEXUAL HARASSMENT

40-50% — Share of women in European Union who've experienced unwanted sexual advances, physical contact or other forms of sexual harassment at work

30-40% — Share of women in Asia who've experienced sexual harassment at work

83% — Share of girls at U.S. public (state) schools aged 12-16 who've experienced some form of sexual harassment in school

### MURDER

2 — Number of women who are murdered in Guatemala each day

8,093 — Number of dowry-related murders of women and young girls in India *(2007)*

### TRAFFICKING

80% — Of those estimated 800,000 people trafficked across national borders annually are women

79% — Share of these women who are trafficked for sexual exploitation

### RED FLAGS TO HELP WOMEN IN NEED

Think your friend is in an abusive relationship, but not sure? Read these signs:

**VERBAL ABUSE** — Your friend's partner subjects her to jibes, in private and in public.

**CONSTANT CHECKUP** — Partner calls and texts your friend nonstop to know where she is and who she's with.

**ANGER** — You've witnessed partner losing his temper, with unpleasant consequences.

**STOPS HAVING FUN** — She no longer spends time with friends or does favorite pastimes.

**CHANGE** — Friend's weight, appearance and habits aren't the same as before – a possible sign of depression from abuse.

GRAPHIC: MIA KORAB
SOURCE: UN STATISTICS DIVISION

# OF VIOLENCE

## campaigns, violence against women is rampant, with UN Women, Metro investigates the issue

the problem is hidden."

Most violence against women occurs in their homes, committed by their boyfriends or husbands. "Partner violence often has a psychological component, which makes it harder to measure," notes Markku Heiskanen, an expert in domestic violence at the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control. "And women want to protect their partners. When they talk about previous partners, they mention violence much more."

Young women especially bear the brunt of men's aggression. Nearly half of all sexual assaults worldwide are committed against girls under 16. "In many cases it's girls from difficult homes who are trapped by men who say they love them but are really johns [or pimps]," says Veneman. "What goes on in these cases is quite extraordinary, and it's happening in North America and Europe."

But there's good news. Safe houses for women are being built, even in countries where violence against women has long been tolerated. Victims are getting job training so they can earn their own money. In India, the Delhi gang rape of a young woman led to unprecedented protests. And in China, the death sentence of a woman convicted of killing her husband after being abused by him for years caused a rare public outcry.

On Valentine's Day this year, the global organization V-Day arranged One Billion Rising, a record-breaking event for protesting violence against women. And this month global leaders convene at the UN headquarters in New York to address it.

A generation ago, violence against children was considered acceptable; today it's frowned upon, and in many countries it's banned. "That shows that society can change the situation if it acts," explains Heiskanen. "Every man carries violence inside him. Every human feels aggression, but perhaps women have been educated to use it less. We can educate men, too. ... We need courses in how to be a man."

**Elisabeth Braw**
METRO WORLD NEWS

**Quoted**

**"Even if a woman's life is in danger, we're not allowed to shelter her. The general attitude is that if a woman goes against the wishes of her community, she deserves to die."**

YANAR MOHAMMED, PRESIDENT, ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN'S FREEDOM IN IRAQ. OWFI PROVIDES SHELTER FOR BATTERED WOMEN AND WOMEN WHOSE LIVES ARE AT RISK.

**Profile**

▶ Yanar Mohammed

### Women in Iraq reduced to 'breeders' after war

Twenty years ago, Iraqi women dressed as they wanted, drove their cars freely and had their own income. Indeed, when it came to women's rights, Iraq was considered the most progressive country in the Middle East. But not anymore.

"Since the war started 10 years ago, Iraq has moved towards Islamist fundamentalism, and women are paying the price for it," says Yanar Mohammed, president of the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq.

"Even in families that were liberal before the war, women are now simply seen as breeders who have no opinion." The situation has deteriorated even though the Americans immediately after the war introduced a 25-percent women quota for the new parliament.

**Taking risks**

Although the government has banned OWFI from sheltering battered women, Mohammed continues to do so, even if it means jail time.

"The so-called war of liberation has turned the worst machos into leaders," she says. "We have to fight back. They don't have the right to turn millions of women into victims." METRO/EB

**Q&A**

▶ Susan Swan

### 'Vagina warriors' celebrate success

*We spoke to Susan Swan, executive director of V-Day.*

**V-Day was founded after "The Vagina Monologues" became a global phenomenon. How can it be that, despite years of campaigning and events like the "Monologues," violence against women remains so common?**

V-Day just turned 15 years, and we asked ourselves, 'How can we celebrate when one-third of women are still victims of violence?'. But we've seen incredible progress. New laws have been passed. Women are doing amazing things, like running shelters for abuse victims. Tens of thousands of activists in 142 countries, including Libya, Iran and Somalia, have joined our campaign. People are realizing that if you help women you help your community.

**Where have you seen progress?**

Women are organizing. We're getting e-mails from women all over the world telling us they'll take action. In India, men and families are coming together in support of their wives and daughters. And in Mogadishu, women recently organized a flash mob! Women are looking at the patriarchy in a different way. And men have been drawn into this movement, too, including Robert Redford and the Dalai Lama. We need more such men, and we need to invite men into the conversation. All of this creates a ripple effect. You need this movement in combination with legislation. Male and female members of the European Parliament have even created a "Vagina Lobby." METRO/EB

**Can you tell me a success story?**

▶ We've helped with a healing program in the DRC called City of Joy. The women who attend are asked to bring what they've learned back to their communities, and boy, have they done it! We've seen a massive shift in attitudes. We call [them] 'the vagina warriors.' It's truly inspiring.

# Victims of rape, FARC find hope in girls' home

DIANA DUARTE

▶ Stella Duque, left, is seen with former girl soldiers at Taller de Vida in Bogota.

**BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.** When Monica was five years old, her stepfather raped her. But when she told her mother, her mother informed her stepfather. "Then he threatened to kill me and do the same to my sisters," recalls Monica, now 16 years old. After six more years of abuse, Monica ran away and joined FARC, Colombia's rebel group. "I wanted to belong to a group because at home I had nobody," she explains. But after hearing that several boys had been killed, she escaped.

**Quoted**

**"Having belonged to a revolutionary armed group creates big problems and emptiness in them."** DUQUE

Monica is now being cared for by Taller de Vida, an organization in Bogota that supports former child soldiers. "The most common reason the girls join this group is that they've been sexually abused by their relatives," says Stella Duque, Taller de Vida's director. "But having belonged to a revolutionary armed group creates big problems and emptiness in them." At Taller de Vida, Monica and the other girls get psychological counseling, attend school and perform theater and music. "I used to want to find my mother and kill her," she says. "But now I want to find her and tell her that, after all she did to me, I'm happy." METRO/EB

# A fresh start for attack

**Acid attacks, which leave victims terribly disfigured, are one of the vilest forms of violence devised by man But in Pakistan, one crusading woman and her sisterhood of acid-attack survivors are blazing a path of hope for victims everywhere**

Elisabeth Braw eats with acid-attack survivors Bushra, left, Anam, center, and fellow burn victims at a McDonald's near the salon where they work in Lahore. After saying goodbye, they headed off together towards the bus — a sisterhood of unlikely heroines.

Bushra shouldn't be alive. One day, after eight years of marriage and three children, her husband, aided by his mother and another relative, tied her up and poured acid over her. Then they tied her scarf around her neck, hung her from the ceiling and left her to die in front of her two youngest children. To make sure Bushra really died, they set the house on fire. The reason: Returning from a visit to her family, Bushra had brought her husband's family expensive gifts rather than cash. They hadn't mentioned they expected cash.

Thanks to kind neighbors, Bushra survived. But like every acid-attack victim, she looked like a monster. Of course, condemning victims to a life as monsters is what men intend when they throw acid at their partners and relatives. In Pakistan, it's an easy crime to commit: Acid is cheap; a bottle of it costs 30 cents.

But today Bushra, now 43, has a good job as a beautician in an upscale salon. "Since I walked in here, I've never looked back," she said. Bushra belongs to the sisterhood of Pakistani acid-attack survivors who've been helped back to life by Musarrat Misbah, the owner of Pakistan's Depilex chain of beauty parlors.

Misbah, in her early 50s, never set out to help acid victims. "I'm a beautician through and through," she said. "I love my job. I'm always the last one to leave at night." One night as she was closing her salon, a woman in a burka showed up and curtly said she needed help. When she pulled her veil back, Misbah saw a face so disfigured that she fainted. Since then, the beauty entrepreneur has become Pakistan's unofficial protector of acid-attack victims. The 30-some Depilex salons now double as offices for her Smile Again Foundation, which helps survivors get reconstructive surgery and trains them in professions so they can re-enter society. "Without vocational training, where would these girls go?" asks Misbah. "Back to those men who threw acid at them?"

To date, the Smile Again Foundation says it's helped more than 500 victims. But it's only a small share of the estimated 9,000 women who were acid-attacked between 1994 and 2001. The assaults continue despite the passing of a law banning the practice two years ago. Acid attacks are common mainly in central and southern Asia but also occur worldwide. "They often come from a poor background, and when you're poor and uneducated, you often don't know the difference between right and wrong," reflects Hina Dilpazeer, a Pakistani actress who campaigns for victims. "If society's poor get an education, I'm convinced attacks will drop."

Many of Smile Again's graduates now work in Depilex's parlors, while others are nurses and call-center workers. "The foundation is my home and family," says Bushra, who hasn't seen her children since the attack. "People make faces when they see me outside. But here at the salon, I'm safe. I've gained clients' respect."

But the road to recovery is rough, as not even the 35 required operations result in a natural face. "Reconstructive surgery is very expensive," says Misbah. "Donors prefer supporting schools." Threats have forced her to hire a bodyguard.

For survivors like Nasreen, a 27-year-old from rural Punjab, life is essentially over. When she was 13, three middle-aged daughters of wealthy neighbors taunted her, and when she finally responded in anger, their fiances threw acid on Nasreen as she slept. The attack left her blind. But seen at the Depilex salon in Lahore, her nails are beautifully done and she sports a stylish hairdo. "This is like a haven," explains Nasreen. "Everyone else shuns me." Smile Again pays her a stipend, as she can no longer work. Her attackers still live next door after paying their way out of a 25-year prison sentence.

At any given time, between five and seven women stay at Misbah's home while awaiting surgery or receiving training. But Misbah feels insufficient: "I just hope God gives me strength to help more girls. I want to build a shelter where I can live with them. Sorry if I sound like Mother Teresa."

Like Mother Teresa, Misbah is making a huge difference in individual lives. These days, as Bushra puts on lipstick, her brother-in-law asks her, "Why do you do that? You should just sit in a corner." To which she responds, "You have no power over me."

**Elisabeth Braw**
METRO WORLD NEWS

**Q&A**

Begum Zakia Shahnwaz

## 'Acid-attack culprits will be tried as terrorists'

*We spoke with Begum Zakia Shahnwaz, senior advisor to the chief minister of Punjab and the top-ranking female politician in Pakistan's most populous state.*

**What is Punjab doing to protect women?**
Last year we proposed a comprehensive bill, which is very likely to be passed. It includes violence against women. It will tell the men that this animalistic behavior can't go on.

For acid-attack victims, we will provide physical and psychological care, and the perpetrator will be tried in a terrorist court, where cases are dealt with swiftly. And acid attacks are terrorist acts.

The bill also includes changes in the inheritance law, a higher female quota in the public sector, anti-harassment legislation and high-standard day care centers. And every college in Punjab will be required to provide two women-only buses.

**Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto was the first woman elected to lead the government in a Muslim country. On the other hand, there are acid attacks. When it comes to women's situation, is Pakistan advanced or way behind?**
In North America and Europe, which are far more advanced than us, women are battered and abused. Our fundamental problem is that we haven't given education to the masses, and abuse also stems from economic frustration. But bear in mind that many of our powerful women are beaten by their husbands, too. The difference is that the strong woman can walk away and the poor woman can't. However, men should remember that when they get old their wives will return the abuse. METRO/EB

Musarrat Misbah

**Quoted**

**"Without vocational training, where would these girls go? Back to those men who threw acid at them?"**

MUSARRAT MISBAH, FOUNDER OF THE SMILE AGAIN FOUNDATION, WHICH HELPS ACID-ATTACK SURVIVORS

victims

SERIES VIOLENCE*AGAINST*WOMEN WOMEN'S

# Sarwari: From pariah to family breadwinner

Sarwari always covers her head and wears dark sunglasses. When she removes her veil, a head burned beyond recognition emerges, but it's progress. For 20 years, Sarwari's burned chin stuck to her chest and her eyes bulged out.

"One year after I got married to my husband, he wanted to take a second wife," she says from her one-room house where she lives with her brother and his family. "I said, 'No, just divorce me.'" Her husband poured acid over her. Even so, Sarwari's mother didn't let her file a case against her husband — he's her first cousin.

▶ Despite her disfigurement, Sarwari is now the family's provider.

One year ago, a relative heard about Smile Again and brought Sarwari there. Surgery detached her chin from her chest and gave her eyelids. She's now been able to start a bottle-cap business. "It gives me an income, so I can give my brother's family money," she says. "But I want to be more financially secure, because my brother is getting married. too. If I can provide for his family, his wife will be nice to me."

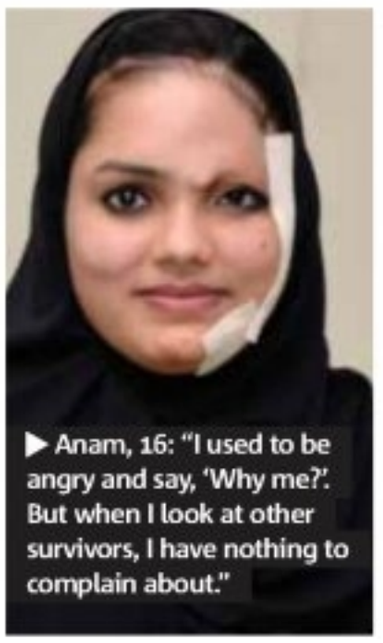
In fact, Sarwari, now 40, commands respect, as she's the family's breadwinner. But she has received taunts from her sister-in-law's sisters, who said, "Your husband's new wife is beautiful!" But, Sarwari explains, "I said, 'What are you talking about? I'm financially secure. I provide for other people. I'm beautiful'."

METRO/EB

# Proud Anam, 16: 'I've only cried once in past year'

Anam, 16, is a beautiful girl. That is, the right side of her face is beautiful. The left side has been destroyed by acid. "I was walking to school with my father one day, when I heard a man from the neighborhood call my name," she recalls. "I kept walking, but then he shouted, 'If you don't stop, I'll throw acid at you.' I kept on walking, but then I felt something burning on my back, and when I turned around to see what it was, the man threw acid on my face and body."

After an entire year in the hospital, Anam was released. But she became a recluse: She didn't leave the house and certainly didn't want to look at herself in the mirror. Two years later, Anam is a self-confident young woman who is studying for her high school graduation while training as a beautician with the Smile Again Foundation. "I used to be very angry and say, 'Why me?'" she explains. "But when I look at the kind of torture the other women here have gone through, I have nothing to complain about."



▶ Anam, 16: "I used to be angry and say, 'Why me?'. But when I look at other survivors, I have nothing to complain about."

Anam's attacker had given Anam's parents a marriage proposal for her older sister, but the parents and sister had rejected it. The family suspects that he had wanted to harm the sister, but when he only found Anam, he attacked her. Anam will have surgery, but like other acid-attack victims, she will be marked for life. Even so, she makes a huge and successful effort to remain upbeat. "I've only cried once in the past year," she says. "That's when my attacker was sentenced. He only got four years in jail."

METRO/EB

**Profile**

PHOTOS: AMEMA SAYEED

## Following suicide attempt, Urooj has found a new life

Urooj tried to burn herself to death. "My in-laws tortured me," she tells me. The abuse worsened when Urooj didn't immediately get pregnant. "My husband would say, 'You're infertile — what's the point of you being alive?'" she says. After Urooj got pregnant, she gave birth to a girl: a misfortune.

Urooj survived the burns, with damage to 70 percent of her body. Her parents blamed her, while her husband remarried. She hasn't seen her daughter again. But a friend had heard of Smile Again and brought Urooj there. She now works as a beautician.

When she met a man online, they decided to get married, much to her parents' ire. "They said that I should have accepted my fate and continued living with my first husband," she says. "I told them, 'I've lost everything. I don't want such parents'."

▶ Urooj: Abuse drove her to suicide. Now she has a job and is getting married.

Today Urooj, now 32, has a full-time job. But such happy endings are rare for acid-attack victims. Of the 500 women assisted by Smile Again, only eight have married. "In the early years after the attack, they don't dare to think about it," says Musarrat Misbah of Smile Again. "But when they become more confident, they start thinking about it. The problem is, who would marry them?" But these women are fighters. They've clawed themselves back from near-death, so they can dream of romance, too. On Valentine's Day, all the victims-turned-beauticians in Misbah's salon wore bright red lipstick.

METRO/EB

**Supporter's to-do list**

An Italian surgeon e-mailed Musarrat Misbah, promising to treat three survivors free of charge. But many Pakistani doctors instead charge Smile Again a higher fee. Here's how you can help.

- **Donate.** By PayPal: www.depilexsmileagain.com/how_you_can_help.php
- **Volunteer.** Help at one of Smile Again's locations.
- **Hire.** Provide employment to the survivors.
- **Encourage.** Urge plastic surgeons to volunteer.
- **Like.** Support Smile Again's Facebook fan page: https://www.facebook.com/DepilexSmileAgain
- **Organize.** Plan surgeries and lodging for the survivors, and raise money for their travel expenses.
- **Teach.** If you're in any profession that the survivors can learn, volunteer to teach them, thereby helping them to earn a living.
- **Pressure.** Put pressure on your government to ask Pakistan to ban sales of acid.

METRO/EB

# WEEKEND

## Attention RuPaul: The star wants a drag impersonation of her performance in the new Sam Raimi film On why she didn't want to re-create the original

PHOTOS: MERIE WEISMILLER WALLACE, SMPSP

▶ Michelle Williams, right, next to James Franco, plays Glinda the Good Witch in "Oz the Great and Powerful," in theaters today.

In "Oz the Great and Powerful," Michelle Williams takes on one of the most iconic screen characters in Hollywood history: Glinda the Good Witch, first seen in the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz." It's not her first time tackling an icon — or even an icon popular with drag queens.

**"The Wizard of Oz" has been very popular with the drag community. Have you given any thought at all to the idea of drag queens taking on your performance?**

Yeah, baby! Yes, yes. Bring it on. I feel like they would, like, put a naughty under the nice. No, I would love to see that. And any chance to amass a bigger gay audience is awesome.

**Have you ever seen a drag interpretation of one of your roles?**

Marilyn probably doesn't count, but there's clearly a lot out there. While I was making ["My Week With Marilyn"] I saw this drag performance of Marilyn on YouTube, and I had to shut it down within 10 seconds because I was like, "That motherf—er is better than me. That motherf—er! I will never match what he's able to do." [Laughs] He was just recreating all of her famous numbers to a T. But I can't imagine many of my other characters. I can't imagine Wendy from "Wendy and Lucy" is big on the drag circuit.

**I could imagine someone out there doing an all-drag "Dawson's Creek."**

Probably, I could see that. Or maybe like a "Meek's Cutoff" thing, and it goes a little "Priscilla Queen of the Desert"?

**It's oddly refreshing to see you in "Oz," a movie that's so ...**

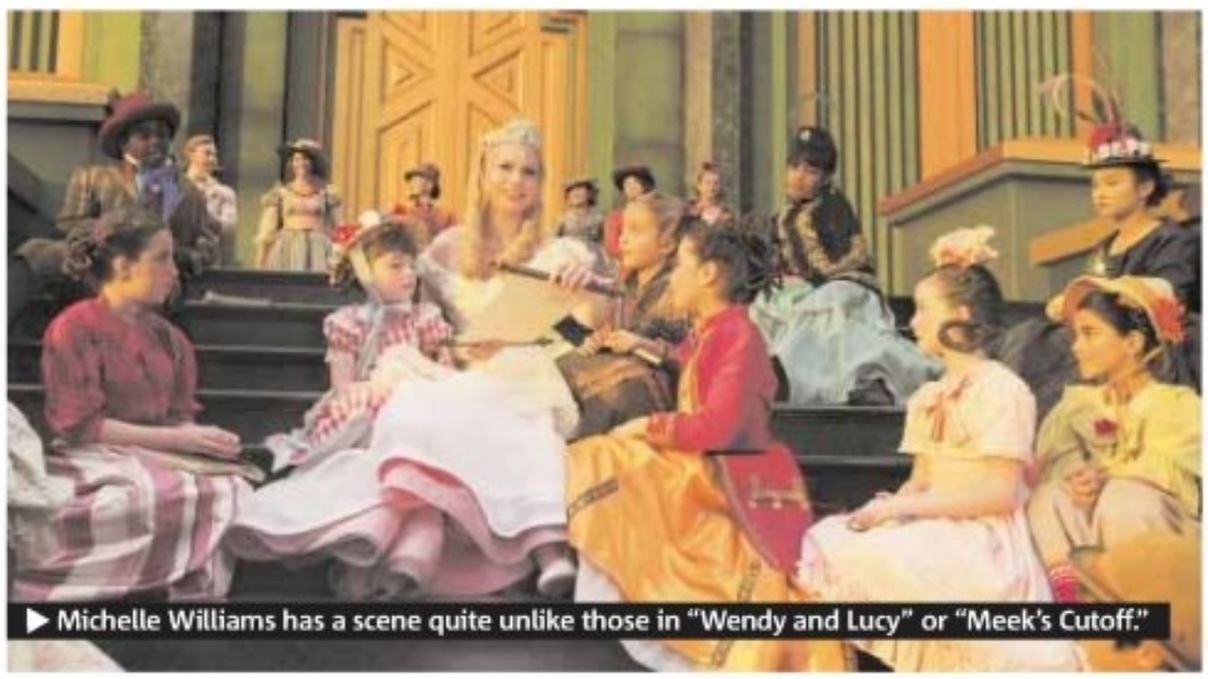
Happy? [Laughs]

**Your films for the last few years have leaned toward the serious and dour, yes. Was this a conscious effort to get something a bit lighter on your filmography?**

I mean, I never think, "Now it's time to do something light." But I did feel within my own soul, I felt like I'd had the marrow sucked out of me, probably especially with "My Week With Marilyn" just because it was so difficult. The core of who she was was very affecting for me to live inside of, so just personally I was feeling more open to doing something that didn't come at a personal cost. For me, I never feel like, "Oh, I have so many things to choose from and I just can't pick. There's just so many great options." It's kind of like desert, desert, desert, desert, oasis! So when that comes along, when I have that feeling from reading a script, whether it's big or small or light or dark, it's really more about if I see an outline of a character that I want to fill in.

**I'm surprised to hear that you'd have so much of a desert as far as scripts. I'd assume that you're getting sent all of the best stuff out there.**

I haven't worked since I made this movie. I haven't worked in over a year. It was a conscious choice, I definitely wanted to take some time off. This was a long movie to make, and I like my life and it takes a lot to take me away from my family. But that choice wasn't ... constantly tested, for better or worse.



▶ Michelle Williams has a scene quite unlike those in "Wendy and Lucy" or "Meek's Cutoff."

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

# MICHELLE WILLIAMS: BRING ON THE GAYS!

**Q&A**

**One of of your co-stars said she avoided re-watching "The Wizard of Oz" so as to not be influenced by it. Was it the same for you?**

No, I mean, I have a kid, so I've watched it a lot. I watched it as a child, and I've watched it passively as a grown-up, and I definitely watched it specifically in reference for this. But I also knew at the same time, Sam [Raimi] had been very specific in saying, "You're not to re-create what you saw in the original." Both because I think he didn't feel like it was the right way to go and because it was, like, a rights issue. [Laughs]

# FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO 'OZ'

**The classic tale has had serious staying power — here's a look at some of its most notable reincarnations**

## The journey ...

**1. 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz':** The 1900 children's novel by Lyman Frank Baum was almost never made: A reluctant publisher by the name of George M. Hill thought the story wouldn't be a success and only agreed to publish it once he found a theater that would turn it into a play, further publicizing it.

**2. 'The Wizard of Oz':** Before the 1939 mega-hit, there was this little-known 1925 adaptation, which starred a young Oliver Hardy and didn't have much in common with the original story.

**3. 'The Wizard of Oz':** The classic 1939 film, which made sweeping changes to the original Baum book, wasn't a huge success at the box office — despite it being MGM's most expensive film made at the time. The Library of Congress has said that it's the most-watched film ever.

**4. 'Journey Back to Oz':** This animated sequel to "The Wizard of Oz," based loosely on Baum's second "Oz" book, began production in the '60s but wasn't released until 1974 because the film went broke. Liza Minelli, the daughter of Judy Garland, made her debut as Dorothy, and Milton Berle and Mickey Rooney also starred. In 1976, it became a TV series with Bill Cosby as the Wizard.

**5. 'The Wiz':** The play that reimagined the pig-tailed heroine and co. in an urban context won seven Tony awards after it premiered in 1975. In 1978, it became a film with Diana Ross as Dorothy, Michael Jackson as the Scarecrow and Richard Pryor as the Wizard.

**6. 'Tim Burton's Lost In Oz':** The 2000 TV pilot never made it to air.

**7. 'Wicked':** This prequel to the classic tale — who really is the bad witch, after all? — has been a hit ever since it premiered on Broadway in 2003. It scooped up three Tonys and has had a rotating cast of famous faces, starting with Idina Menzel and Kristin Chenowith.

**8. 'The Muppets' Wizard of Oz':** Ashanti lent her talents to the 2005 ABC musical that debuted at the Tribeca Film Festival. Kermit played the Scarecrow, Gonzo played a "Tin Thing," Fozzie Bear played the Cowardly Lion and Miss Piggy played Glinda the Good Witch. The Munchkins were portrayed by Rizzo the Rat and his compatriots.

**9. 'Tin Man':** The 2007 Sci-Fi network three-part miniseries starred Zooey Deschanel, Richard Dreyfuss and Alan Cumming. Deschanel played a jaded waitress, DG, who headed to Outer Zone (Oz, get it?) to find her birth parents.

**10. 'Oz the Great and Powerful':** The new telling finds shady circus magician Oscar Diggs (James Franco) landing in Oz and meeting three witches who doubt that he's what the magical land has been waiting for.

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# Not exactly 'Great' but somewhat 'Powerful'

## Latest return to 'Oz' plays it safe, but director Sam Raimi funks it up ◗ James Franco miscast, but welcome and unique presence

Though actually set closer to the turn of the (last) century, the classic-movie-nerd opening of "Oz the Great and Powerful" recreates the look of 1939: the box-shaped frame, the artificial sets, the mannered acting. It's the era of not the first "Wizard of Oz" film — several were made prior, including a 1925 feature with Oliver Hardy as the Tin Man — but the most beloved, and director Sam Raimi makes sure to get everything right. His only mistake is James Franco, cast as the 30-something Oscar Diggs, aka the actual Wizard of Oz — because when you think of the 1930s, you obviously think of mumbling stoners.

**If you go**

**'Oz the Great and Powerful'**
**Director:** Sam Raimi
**Stars:** James Franco, Michelle Williams, Mila Kunis, Rachel Weisz
**Rating:** PG
**Grade:** ●●●○○

Perhaps realizing this is a classier gig than hosting the Oscars, the amusingly miscast Franco tries hard. Robert Downey Jr. was originally slated to lead this, Disney's second attempt to piggyback off a mega-classic. (The 1985 film "Return to Oz" tanked, on account of it being as awesomely scary and demented as L. Frank Baum's books.) But Downey Jr. would have only done Downey Jr., whereas Franco lends an unpolished, excitable and unique presence to a script that's overly safe and which has clearly been exec-noted to death.

The plot uses little directly from Baum's 14 "Oz" books, hitting us with yet another origin story: Franco's Diggs is a magician/conman whisked away by a twister (original!) to the magical land of loud colors and anthropomorphized animals. There, he befriends a flying monkey (voiced by Zach Braff) and a porcelain china doll (Joey King), while running afoul of the younger (and hotter) versions of the three witches: nice Glinda (Michelle Williams), drolly evil Evanora (Rachel Weisz) and her sister, the gullible and sweet Theodora (Mila Kunis).

Raimi dutifully plods through the thin plot while encouraging his actors and effects team to spice things up. Weisz is reliably arch, and the director of three "Evil Dead" movies uses the third dimension to have beasts and pointy objects leaping in our faces.

His most lasting effect on this product is more reserved and loving: His is a movie about the relationship between science and magic, producing the most trenchant mainstream picture on the subject since Christopher Nolan's "The Prestige." And though the overall effect is lightly likable, at least it's not cluttered, narratively or visually, like another Joe Roth production with a Danny Elfman score: Tim Burton's grotesque violation of "Alice in Wonderland."

MERIE WEISMILLER WALLACE, SMPSP

▶ Mila Kunis and James Franco star in the latest trip to "Oz."

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**Indie spotlight**

### 'Emperor'

Tommy Lee Jones almost won an Oscar for his role as Thaddeus Stevens in "Lincoln," which may explain the appearance of this film, in which he's General MacArthur. The actor actually plays second fiddle to Matthew Fox's General Bonner Fellers, a Japanophile tasked with judging whether Emperor Hirohito should be charged with war crimes following V-J Day.

### 'Greedy Lying Bastards'

Tell us how you really feel, guys. This documentary examines climate change deniers, including ExxonMobil and the Koch Brothers, arguing that they have a vested interest in keeping the public and politicians misinformed so as to protect their product. ● MATT PRIGGE

▶ Tommy Lee Jones, center, plays General MacArthur in "Emperor," in theaters today.

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# Life during (cold) wartime

ADOPT FILMS

Nina Hoss never smiles in the Cold War drama "Barbara," out today.

**Drama about living in East Germany in 1980 features excellent performances of stark sobriety Director Christian Petzold gives the serious film a neo-noir feel**

As the title character in "Barbara," Nina Hoss doesn't smile. She isn't even friendly to Andre (Ronald Zehrfeld), the fellow doctor who dotes on her. The two are stationed in a miserable hospital in a small town with drab wallpaper, colorless clothes, ominous officials and a general air of zombification. They're living in East Germany during the Cold War in 1980.

Like the film "The Lives of Others," "Barbara" takes an unflattering look at life in the German Democratic Republic during the Cold War — but it's not a comforting portrait of a difficult time we know is safely in the past. Instead, "Barbara" is a character study laced with an old-fashioned "woman's picture" and meshed with a neo-noir film.

As it becomes slowly evident, Barbara has been banished to this small town after applying for an exit visa. In between regular visits from stern state officials, she still plans her escape. The only time she warms up is during secret visits from her lover, the man who is arranging their defection to the West. Complications arise when he happens upon a young, wounded woman, whose need to get out of the country may eclipse his own.

The career of director Christian Petzold has so far partly been dedicated to methodical neo-noirs; "Jerichow," his most seen film, was a riff on "The Postman Always Rings Twice." He has a deliberate, precise style that's fairly intoxicating, even when the material is familiar. That's put slightly to the test with "Barbara," which, despite initial obfuscation, is clearly headed toward a too-tidy redemption/love story. Even before Barbara meets the young woman, it's obvious where this will end. The same goes for whether or not she will warm to Andre, whose persistence — and method of flirting, which involves pointers on art appreciation — would break down even Isabelle Huppert at her most blood-cold.

Foreordained as its conclusion may be, "Barbara" is still rewarding viewing, not only for Petzold's steady direction, but for the perversely normal way it portrays GDR life. The Stasi look more like common thugs from a film noir than cartoonish baddies, and they're even afforded moments of humanity. And while Hoss' impressively mirthless, yet furtively emotional, turn is itself a kind of art house cliche, Zehrfeld does offer an amusing twist as the smitten nice guy who will inevitably finish first.

**Matt Prigge**
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**If you go**

**'Barbara'**
**Director:** Christian Petzold
**Stars:** Nina Hoss, Ronald Zehrfeld
**Rating:** PG-13
**Grade:** ●●●○○


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# A sequel to Israeli gay classic

**Director Eytan Fox visits in on one of the stars of 2002's 'Yossi & Jagger' The film finds Yossi still in mourning, but ready to move on It also touches on Israeli-Palestinian relations**

STRAND RELEASING

Ohad Knoller, right, plays a doctor trying to get over lost love in "Yossi," out today.

Gay American cinema is full of coming-out and coming-of-age tales, but unlike the Israeli drama "Yossi," they're generally not about men in their 30s. It's difficult to tell how much of Yossi's (Ohad Knoller) unwillingness to step out of the closet is a cultural trait; after all, Tel Aviv is known for its gay nightlife and the Israeli army allowed gays and lesbians to serve openly long before the American military did. All the same, "Yossi" often plays like an American film about gay characters from 25 or 30 years ago.

"Yossi" is a sequel to the military love story "Yossi & Jagger," made a decade ago. There, Yossi's lover died tragically. When "Yossi" begins, the character, now a doctor, still hasn't gotten over his loss.

Much chubbier than he appeared in the first film, Yossi spends his nights looking at porn online and having humiliating hookup sessions. However, he steps outside his shell when he meets a group of young soldiers on a trip to the desert, and makes his first steps toward finding a new love when one of them, Tom (Oz Zehavi), begins to pursue him.

Director Eytan Fox's films haven't shied away from addressing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but compared to documentaries like "The Gatekeepers" and "The Law in These Parts," they've been fairly inept at doing so. Fox sees Israeli politics through a gay lens — in "The Bubble," he brought us the cinema's first queer Palestinian suicide bomber, while also depicting the gay scene in Tel Aviv — but that doesn't really shed any new light on the issue. Fortunately, "Yossi" sticks to affairs of the heart.

It's not afraid to show just how brutal online dating can be or suggest that Yossi would probably get better results if he stopped pretending to be a younger, thinner version of himself. Fox's depiction of Yossi's sex life goes a long way toward explaining the character's emotional reticence and his reluctance to be honest about his sexuality at work.

A lot has changed in Israel in the 10 years since "Yossi & Jagger": its lovers would not have to be secretive now. "Yossi" shows a country becoming more accepting of gay culture, yet it also shows the potentially alienating and unpleasant side of that.

The young men Yossi meets represent his country's future, and he can only participate in their freedoms if he forces himself to stop wallowing in grief and loss. The film ends on an achingly ambiguous note, with Yossi getting more emotionally mature but not yet completely out of the woods.

**If you go**

**'Yossi'**
**Director:** Eytan Fox
**Stars:** Ohad Knoller, Oz Zehavi
**Rating:** NR
**Grade:** B

**Steven Erickson**
*letters@metro.us*

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Review

## 'The ABCs of Death'

**Directors:** 28 of them
**Stars:** Many!
**Rating:** NR
**Grade:** ●●○○○

It was Blaise Pascal who apologized to a friend for a long letter, saying he didn't have time to make it short. Just because something is brief doesn't make it easier to construct. It can, in fact, be harder. As proof, witness "The ABCs of Death," a horror anthology of 26 shorts, nearly all of them obnoxious, forgettable timewasters with images (Nazi dog strippers, farting lesbians) sadly less forgettable.

It is a shame, because the premise is inspired. Each of the international filmmakers (28, actually) were assigned a letter and given free rein, so long as the film was brief and resulted in someone (or something) snuffed. Should a film whiff it, that's conceivably OK, as there's always a new one right around the corner. And yet the experience of "ABCs" means forever peering around the corner, frustration mounting as it becomes evident that even the talented filmmakers — Ernesto Diaz Espinoza ("Timecrimes"), Ti West ("House of the Devil") — have turned in work fathoms beneath them, mostly trading in midnight-at-a-hipster-festival juvenilia.

Okay, it's not a total wash. Bruno Forzani and Helene Cattet (of the French "Them") deviate, from the norm with "O is for Orgasm," and give us an expressionistic montage of Dario Argento color filters. Adam Wingard and Simon Barrett make a self-reflexive comedy about the difficulties of find a good horror word pertaining to the letter Q. Though all the work is short, it's not clear anyone gave them much time. **MATT PRIGGE**

▶ Man's best friend shares an intimate moment with man in "The ABCs of Death," out today.

MAGNET RELEASING

# Long way 'Down'

## The director of the original 'The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo' makes a ridiculous Hollywood debut with his Lisbeth Salander

There are those who pick apart logic in movies, criticizing plot developments for not making real-world sense. There are also those who feel this is pointless, as one shouldn't let outlandish, even impossible occurrences in a piece of fiction stand in the way of one's enjoyment. Even "Vertigo" — the Greatest Film Ever Made, as per the most recent Sight & Sound poll — makes very little rational sense. But where does one draw the line? Perhaps around J.H. Wyman's script for "Dead Man Down," whose title isn't even a saying.

Colin Farrell plays a hoodlum for a big NYC crime boss (Terrence Howard), who's been fending off a mystery adversary. It turns out the adversary is Farrell himself, whose wife and daughter were murdered by Howard's goons. Farrell has thus become a superhuman avenger, much like Gerard Butler in another absurdly ludicrous script, "Law Abiding Citizen."

Alas, Farrell's neighbor across the way (Noomi Rapace) knows his secret — he killed someone without drawing the blinds, wouldn't you know — and instead of turning him in, blackmails him into murdering the drunken driver who left the left side of her face scarred. But will they, you know, fall in love?

"Dead Man Down" marks the Hollywood debut of director Nils Arden Oplev, who helmed the Swedish original of "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo." This time, Rapace doesn't get a quality role as she did with Lisbeth Salander. Rapace's character, a beautician rather than a pierced hacker, is scattershot and basically unplayable, though Rapace attacks it with a loopy commitment that becomes oddly affable. Her director gets the same deal: This is one dumb movie, but Oplev — whose "Tattoo" was a funereal slog — plays it as weird and lurid as possible. Rapace lives with her mom, played by (why not?) Isabelle Huppert, who seems convinced she's in a silly movie where she prances about and makes cookies. This is the most inappropriate role the French ice queen has had since playing Steve Guttenberg's affair subject in "The Bedroom Window," but her periodic appearances add a richer texture to a movie that would otherwise only be pretty stupid.

JOHN BAER

▶ Colin Farrell and Noomi Rapace get bloody and disheveled "Dead Man Down," in theaters today.

**If you go**

**'Dead Man Down'**
**Director:** Nils Arden Oplev
**Stars:** Colin Farrell, Noomi Rapace
**Rating:** R
**Grade:** ●●○○○

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## Weekend TV watch list

### 'Saturday Night Live'

**COMEDY.** Justin Timberlake doubles down as host and musical guest. This could be the night we finally get over the break-up of 'N Sync. **Saturday, 11:30 p.m., NBC**

### 'Cupcake Wars'

**REALITY.** We never abandon hope that the plot will take a literal turn and feature bakers using cupcakes as weaponry. **8 p.m., Food Network**

### 'Fashion Star'

**REALITY.** This design competition watchable enough that we don't mind it is the evil twin of "Project Runway." **Friday, 8 p.m., NBC**

DANA EDELSON, NBC

▶ Justin Timberlake, left, will appear as both host and musical guest on "Saturday Night Live."

### 'Restless Virgins'

**TELEFILM.** This made-for-TV flick, based on a real-life high school sex scandal, is a lot more innocent than one would assume from the title. **Saturday, 8 p.m., Lifetime**

### 'Unfaithful: Stories of Betrayal'

**REALITY.** This high-stakes confessional drama pumps life into reality TV. **Saturday, 10 p.m., OWN**

NATALIE SHURE

## Music news

### Singer Bruno Mars tops Billboard 200

R&B singer Bruno Mars grabbed the top spot on the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday for the first time after discounted online prices boosted sales of "Unorthodox Jukebox" some four months after its release.

Mars' album, which includes the hit "Locked Out of Heaven," sold 95,000 copies last week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

▶ Bruno Mars

Industry magazine Billboard said 64,000 units of the album were digital downloads following a one-day sale of $1.99 on Amazon's MP3 site.

Atoms for Peace, the rock group fronted by Radiohead singer Thom Yorke, claimed the second spot with their debut album "Amok" entering the chart at No. 2, selling 50,000 units.

On the digital songs chart, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' cheeky rap "Thrift Shop" held at No. 1 for the eighth consecutive week with 326,000 downloads, a 10 percent decline from last week.

Mars' song "When I Was Your Man" placed second, trading spots from last week with viral music video hit "Harlem Shake" by electronic artist Baauer, who landed at No. 3 this week.

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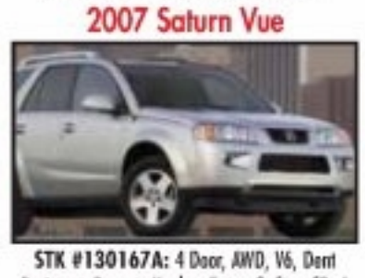

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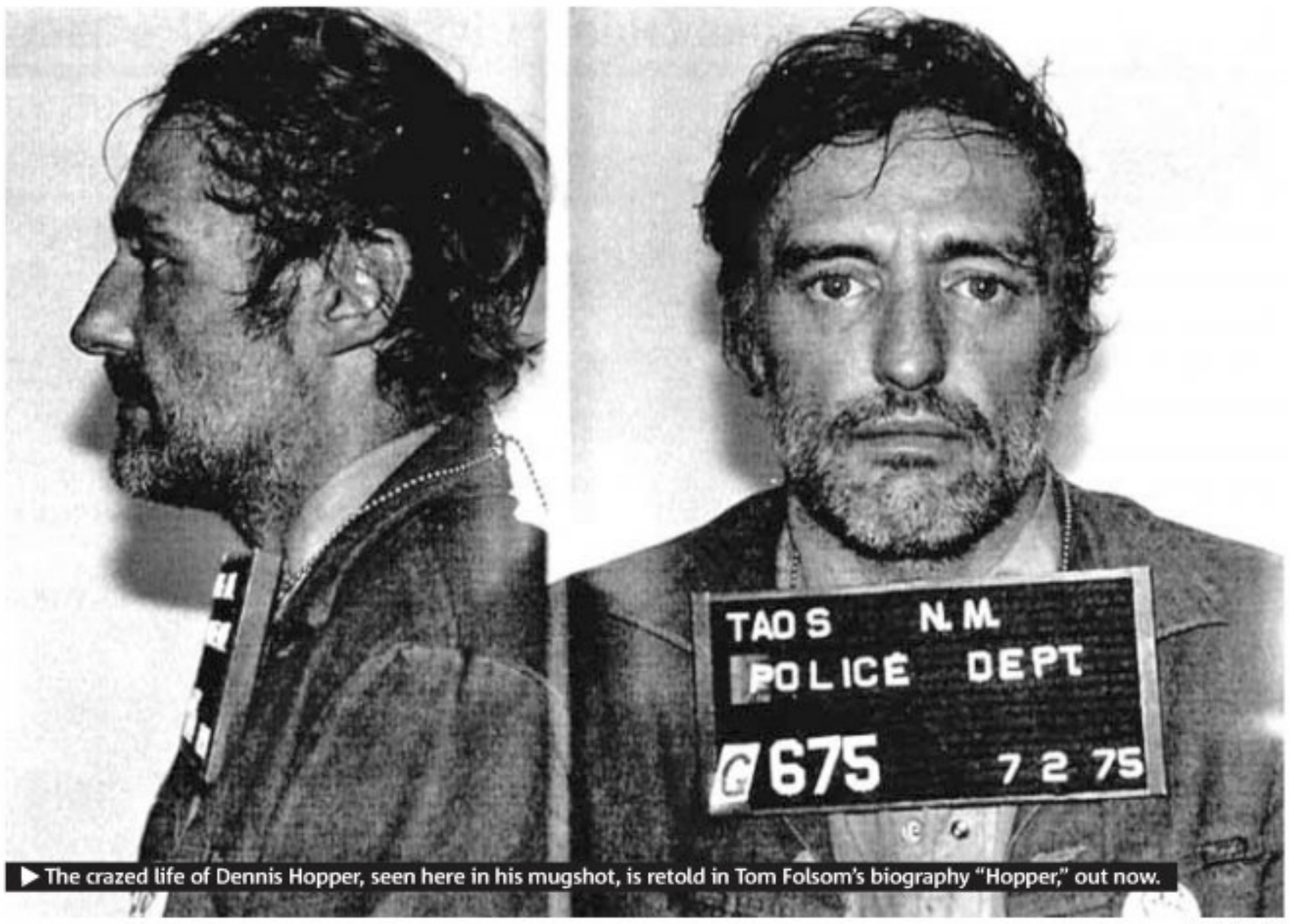


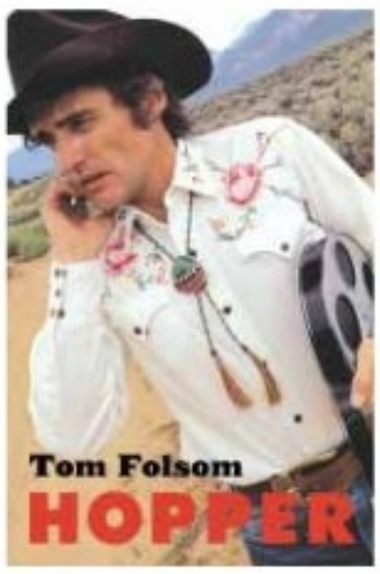

▶ The crazed life of Dennis Hopper, seen here in his mugshot, is retold in Tom Folsom's biography "Hopper," out now.

EYEVINE-REDUX

# PARTLY FACT, PARTLY FICTION

## Writer Tom Folsom discusses 'Hopper,' his new biography on Dennis Hopper ◐ Among the truths he uncovered about the late actor: He once shot a tree because he thought it was a bear

Dennis Hopper — actor, director, artist and husband to Michelle Phillips for eight days — died in 2010 having never put his turbulent life down on paper. Enter Tom Folsom. The documentarian and writer — of the best-seller "The Mad Ones: Crazy Joe Giallo and the Revolution at the Edge of the Underworld" — turns to another stranger-than-fiction life with "Hopper: A Journey Into the American Dream," a slim and rollicking ride culled from hundreds of interviews and much digging through myths.




**Hopper died in 2010. When did you get the idea for this book?**

Late 2009, I'd say. I had gotten a book deal and I thought I'd try to help him finish his memoirs. He'd been trying to do his book for 30 years. I write a lot about gangsters and American outlaws, and Dennis' story to me had that outlaw quality to it. He was dangerous — you can see it onscreen where you're watching "Apocalypse Now." Without taking anything away from his acting, I felt his life was greater than any of the roles he played.

**At the start you quote that Kris Kristofferson song: "He's a walkin' contradiction, partly fact and partly fiction." How much of this book is fact and how much fiction?**

**Q&A**

**What perspective did you want to take on Hopper's life?**

Dennis Hopper lived his life like it was a movie, but he never got that down on the page. I felt like I wanted to capture that spirit. I wanted to find out what was this crazy movie that begins with a boy in Texas and takes him to the top of a mountain in Peru, flying in his cast, hauling horses up the mountain, with tons of cocaine and tripping on acid. And the end of the ride is the guy is sick and watching old cowboy movies. I thought that it was a real narrative.

For me the idea was to show that interplay. This is based on hard-core historical research. I went through old Warner Bros. files to find the story of the three-day showdown between Hopper and [director] Henry Hathaway [on the set of "From Hell to Texas"]. Then you talk to Don Murray, the star of that movie, and he was like, "Well, Dennis was definitely really, really difficult, but I don't remember a three-day showdown." I wanted to show both sides. A lot of times those two blend. Did he really go out and shoot a tree because he thought it was a bear? Yeah, he actually did.

**The book doesn't just upchuck facts. It doesn't even mention all his films.**

Well, you can go on Wikipedia for that stuff nowadays. It relieves that burden if you want to do something interesting. A writer finds that the truth and compiles a narrative. If you want to learn about all his films, it's just a click away.

**Matt Prigge**
*letters@metro.us*

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**BEAUTIFUL CREATURES** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 9:55, 4:25, 10:35. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sun 9:55-4:25-10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**DARK SKIES** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:50, 1:35, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50, 12:20. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:50-1:35-4:25-7:05-9:50. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) Fri and Sat 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, 12:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-1:30-4:15-7:00-9:45. Digital Presentation
**EMPEROR** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:40, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:50.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:25.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) 10:15, 3:15, 8:05. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D** (PG) 12:50, 5:40. CC-Closed Captions;RealD 3D
**A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD** (R) Fri and Sat 10:55, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55, 12:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:55-1:50-4:30-7:10-9:55. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) Fri and Sat 10:25, 1:25, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05, 12:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:25-1:25-4:15-7:20-10:05. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:40, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:40-1:40-4:40-7:40-10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 12:10, 3:10, 6:10, 9:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D
**THE LAST EXORCISM PART II** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:10, 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 4:10, 5:25, 6:35, 8:00, 9:05, 10:30, 11:45. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-12:30-1:30-3:00-4:10-5:25-6:35-8:00-9:05-10:20. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**LIFE OF PI 3D** (PG) 9:35, 1:05, 7:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) Fri and Sat 10:30, 12:15, 1:45, 3:30, 5:00, 6:45, 8:15, 10:00, 11:30. Digital Presentation; 2:15-8:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-12:15-1:45-3:30-5:00-6:45-8:15-10:00. Digital Presentation
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) Fri 10:00, 11:00, 11:30, 1:15, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 6:00, 7:45, 9:15, 11:00, 12:00, 12:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D; Sat 10:00-11:00-1:15-4:30-5:30-7:45-11:00-12:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D; Sat 10:00-11:00-1:15-4:30-5:30-7:45-11:00-12:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D; Sat 11:30-2:45-6:00-9:15-12:30. RealD 3D; Sun 10:00-11:00-1:15-4:30-5:30-7:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D; Sun 11:30-2:45-6:00-9:15. RealD 3D
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE** (PG) 9:30, 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30. IMAX
**QUARTET** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:50, 2:05, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:50-2:05-4:55-7:35-10:05.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
**SAFE HAVEN** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:35, 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:35-1:45-4:35-7:30-10:15. Digital Presentation
**SIDE EFFECTS** (R) 10:25. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) 9:50, 1:00, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**SNITCH** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:10, 1:05, 4:05, 6:40, 9:35, 12:35. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:10-1:05-4:05-6:40-9:35. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**WARM BODIES** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 4:50, 10:40. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 4:50-10:35. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation

### AMC Plymouth Meeting Mall 12
888-AMC-4FUN
Next to Plymouth Meeting Mall
**BEAUTIFUL CREATURES** (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:30-1:15-4:00-6:45-9:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**THE BERLIN FILE** (NR) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-1:40-4:20-7:00-9:45. Digital Presentation
**EMPEROR** (PG-13) Fri 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:00-12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) 12:00, 4:45. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D** (PG) Fri 2:15, 7:00. CC-Closed Captions;RealD 3D; Sat and Sun 10:00-2:15-7:00. CC-Closed Captions;RealD 3D
**HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS** (R) Fri 2:20, 7:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:00-2:20-7:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS 3D** (R) 12:10, 4:40, 9:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;RealD 3D
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) Fri 10:55, 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:45-1:30-4:15-7:10-10:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video;Digital Presentation
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00. RealD 3D
**QUARTET** (PG-13) Fri 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:30.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00-12:20-3:00-5:30-8:10-10:30.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:00-12:20-3:00-5:20-7:40-10:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
**SAFE HAVEN** (PG-13) Fri 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 2:00-4:45-7:30-10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-2:00-4:45-7:30-10:15. Digital Presentation
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation
**SNITCH** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:25. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 12:00-2:30-5:10-7:40-10:15. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation

### Bryn Mawr Film Institute
610-527-9898
824 West Lancaster Avenue
**56 UP** (NR) Fri 1:30, 7:00; Sun 1:30-7:00.
**CHASING ICE** (PG-13) Fri 4:30, 9:45; Sun 4:30.
**KIKI'S DELIVERY SERVICE (MAJO NO TAKKYUBIN)** (NR) Sat 11:00
**OUT IN THE DARK (ALATA)** (NR) Sun 7:00
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) Fri 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45; Sat 11:00.; Sun 1:15-4:00.

### Clearview's Anthony Wayne
610-225-0980
109 West Lancaster Avenue
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) Fri 3:45; Sat and Sun 12:45-3:45.
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) Fri 4:15, 7:15, 9:50; Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15-9:50.; Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15.
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) Fri 3:45, 6:45, 9:30; Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:30.; Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45.
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) Fri 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:15.; Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30.
**SAFE HAVEN** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 6:45, 9:40; Sun 6:45.
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) Fri 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sat 1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00.; Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00.

### Clearview's Bala Theatre
610-668-4695
157 Bala Avenue
**ARGO** (R) Fri 3:45, 6:45, 9:20; Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:20.; Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45.
**LIFE OF PI** (PG) Fri 3:30. Digital Projection; Sat and Sun 12:30. Digital Projection
**LIFE OF PI 3D** (PG) Fri 6:30, 9:15; Sat 3:30-6:30-9:15.; Sun 3:30-6:30.
**QUARTET** (PG-13) Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:25; Sat 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:25.; Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00.

### Hiway Theatre
215-886-9800
212 Old York Road
**QUARTET** (PG-13) Fri 2:45, 5:15, 7:30; Sat 12:00-2:45-5:15-7:30.; Sun 2:45-5:15-7:30.

### Narberth Stadium 2
610-667-0115
129 North Narberth Avenue
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) 3:50, 6:45. DLP-Digital Projection
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) Fri 9:40. DLP-Digital Projection; Sat 12:55-9:40. DLP-Digital Projection; Sun 12:55. DLP-Digital Projection
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) Fri 9:25. DLP-Digital Projection; Sat 12:40-9:25. DLP-Digital Projection; Sun 12:40. DLP-Digital Projection
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) 3:35, 6:30. DLP-Digital Projection

### Regal Marketplace 24
800-326-3264 341
180 Mill Road
**21 AND OVER** (R) 12:45, 7:45, 10:15
**ARGO** (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05
**THE ATTACKS OF 26/11 (HINDI)** (NR) 3:25, 6:10, 9:00
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) 11:35, 2:25, 5:10, 8:05, 10:50
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30
**A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD** (R) 12:15, 5:35, 8:00, 10:35
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) 11:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:20
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) 10:50, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 11:10, 11:50, 2:10, 2:35, 4:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30. RealD 3D
**KAI PO CHE** (NR) 3:45, 6:30, 9:15
**THE LAST EXORCISM PART II** (PG-13) 10:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:25
**LES MISERABLES** (PG-13) 11:25, 2:55, 6:25, 9:55
**LIFE OF PI** (PG) 12:35, 3:30, 6:40, 9:35
**LINCOLN** (PG-13) 2:50, 6:35, 9:55
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) 10:40, 11:40, 12:00, 12:40, 1:40, 2:40, 3:00, 3:20, 4:40, 7:40, 9:00, 9:20, 10:40
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) 10:00, 10:20, 11:00, 11:20, 12:20, 1:00, 1:20, 2:00, 2:20, 4:00, 5:00, 5:30, 6:20, 7:00, 8:10, 8:40, 10:00. RealD 3D
**QUARTET** (PG-13) 10:55, 4:15, 6:50
**SAFE HAVEN** (PG-13) 10:30, 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45
**SIDE EFFECTS** (R) 4:05
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) 1:20, 4:35, 7:35, 10:45
**SNITCH** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:15, 7:55, 10:45
**WARM BODIES** (PG-13) 1:35
**ZERO DARK THIRTY** (R) 6:45, 10:10

### Regal Plymouth Meeting 10
800-326-3264 335
1011 W Ridge Pike
**21 AND OVER** (R) Fri and Sat 1:00, 4:40, 7:50, 10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sun 1:00-4:40-7:50-10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**ARGO** (R) 12:00, 3:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**DARK SKIES** (PG-13) 3:20
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) 12:20, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**DJANGO UNCHAINED** (R) 11:50, 6:50. CC-Closed Captions
**A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD** (R) 4:20, 10:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**LINCOLN** (PG-13) 11:40, 6:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) 11:30, 2:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) 12:30, 4:10, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Vide;RealD 3D
**SIDE EFFECTS** (R) 12:10, 3:50, 6:55, 9:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**WARM BODIES** (PG-13) 12:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**ZERO DARK THIRTY** (R) 3:10, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

### Ritz 5 Movies
215-925-7900
214 Walnut Street
**AMOUR** (PG-13) 12:15, 6:15
**ARGO** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
**BARBARA** (PG-13) 12:45, 3:45, 7:10, 9:35
**THE GATEKEEPERS (SHOMEREI HA'SAF)** (PG-13) 12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50
**LINCOLN** (PG-13) 3:00, 9:00
**QUARTET** (PG-13) 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

### Ritz East
215-925-7900
2nd Street between Walnut and Chestnut
**EMPEROR** (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 9:45
**LIFE OF PI** (PG) 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30

### Ritz at the Bourse
215-440-1181
400 Ranstead Street
**56 UP** (NR) 1:30, 6:00, 9:00
**THE ABCS OF DEATH** (R) Fri and Sat 11:59
**BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD** (PG-13) 1:00, 7:00
**GREEDY LYING BASTARDS** (PG-13) 1:10, 3:45, 7:10, 9:45
**THE IMPOSSIBLE** (PG-13) 4:10, 9:35
**A PLACE AT THE TABLE** (PG) 1:15, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
**YOSSI (HA-SIPPUR SHEL YOSSI)** (NR) 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:40, 9:50

### The Pearl Theatre at Avenue North
215-763-7700
1600 North Broad Street
**DARK SKIES** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 9:30, 11:50; Sun 9:30.
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) Fri and Sat 12:50, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50, 12:30; Sun 12:50-4:20-7:10-9:50.
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) 2:50, 4:50, 6:50
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D** (PG) 12:20
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20, 12:00; Sun 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20.
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 2:30, 7:30, 12:30; Sun 2:30-7:30.
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 12:00, 5:00, 10:00
**THE LAST EXORCISM PART II** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:30, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10, 12:20; Sun 12:30-3:10-5:20-7:40-10:10.
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) 3:40, 9:20
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) Fri and Sat 12:40, 6:40, 12:00; Sun 12:40-6:40.
**SNITCH** (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50, 12:10; Sun 12:00-2:30-4:50-7:20-9:50.

### Tuttleman IMAX Theater - Franklin Institute
215-448-1111
20th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway
**SPACE JUNK** (NR) Fri 10:15, 2:15; Sat and Sun 10:15-12:15-2:15.
**TITANICA (1995)** (NR) 11:15, 1:15

### UA Grant Plaza 9
800-326-3264 651
1619 Grant Avenue - Grant Plaza 2 Shopping Center
**21 AND OVER** (R) 2:05, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) 12:10, 3:15, 7:10, 10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH** (PG) 11:10, 1:30, 3:45, 6:50. CC-Closed Captions
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) 11:50, 2:20, 7:55, 10:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 11:20, 2:10, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Vide;RealD 3D
**THE LAST EXORCISM PART II** (PG-13) Fri 5:10, 7:50, 10:35. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sat and Sun 11:30-5:10-7:50-10:35. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) 11:00, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 9:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) 12:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Vide;RealD 3D
**SNITCH** (PG-13) 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

### UA King of Prussia Stadium 16
800-326-3264 644
Located on Mall Boulevard across from The Plaza King of Prussia
**21 AND OVER** (R) 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:35. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**DARK SKIES** (PG-13) 11:50, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55, 10:50
**DEAD MAN DOWN** (R) 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**EMPEROR** (PG-13) 10:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
**A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD** (R) 10:40, 4:40, 10:05. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**IDENTITY THIEF** (R) 11:10, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER** (PG-13) 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**JACK THE GIANT SLAYER 3D** (PG-13) 10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Vide;RealD 3D
**THE LAST EXORCISM PART II** (PG-13) 11:15, 1:35, 4:25, 6:55, 9:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**LIFE OF PI 3D** (PG) 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL** (PG) 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL IN 3D** (PG) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Vide;RealD 3D
**OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE** (PG) 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Se;IMAX
**SAFE HAVEN** (PG-13) 1:40, 7:05. CC-Closed Captions
**SIDE EFFECTS** (R) 3:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK** (R) 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15. CC-Closed Captions
**SNITCH** (PG-13) Fri 11:20, 2:10, 5:10, 7:50, 10:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sat 2:10-5:10-7:50-10:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sun 11:20-2:10-5:10-7:50-10:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
**ZERO DARK THIRTY** (R) Fri 12:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sat 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sun 12:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

# THE WORD

**Dorothy Robinson's** take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

## The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Oprah Winfrey is in a giving mood, Jason Alexander is dealing with some uninvited guests, Justin Bieber is a bit peeved and Mark Ruffalo is not getting his own movie.

**@Oprah**
If I had only one gift to offer you it would be STILLNESS. Will you accept it?

**@IJasonAlexander**
Every now&then there is a Hollywood Tour Bus outside my house. But they keep saying, "this is where David Schwimmer lives".

**@justinbieber**
fake stories to sell papers i guess are part of the job. but im a good person. i know that. u cant tell me different. we know the truth

**@Mruff221**
A lot of folks have been asking about the Next Hulk. The next time you see my Hulk it will be in the Avengers2. No plans for stand alone.

Mark Ruffalo

# Swift backlash begins

**Taylor Swift** can't catch a break this week. She started a virtual firestorm when she said she didn't appreciate **Amy Poehler** and **Tina Fey**'s joke at her expense at January's Golden Globes by saying to Vanity Fair, "You know, **Katie Couric** is one of my favorite people. She said to me she had heard a quote that she loved that said, 'There's a special place in hell for women who don't help other women.'" Sadly, Swift didn't understand that Fey and Poehler are bulletproof and loved beyond distraction; you cannot disparage them, even if you are somewhat right.

She then came across as rather entitled in the latest issue of InStyle U.K. about the hardships of being one of the most famous women on the planet. "I don't wanna end up being awful and intolerable. Alone. Laying in a marble bathtub by myself, like sad, with a glass of wine just complaining that my life ended up alone because I pushed everyone away," she says. "The typical Hollywood sad cliche of the poor lonely starlet with no one because she put up all these walls and didn't trust anyone. That's my fear. And that's why I live my life the way I do because I'd so much rather feel everything than end up like that."

**"I don't wanna end up being awful and intolerable. Alone. Laying in a marble bathtub by myself."**
SWIFT

So not the best week for Swift. But I hope the recent knocks from the press and public won't keep her from speaking her mind in interviews. It's refreshing that she's not totally presented through the sheen of a publicist's spin. What happens if, tired from all of the recent backlash, she decides to zip it up and become as tight-lipped and boring as every other starlet out there? That would be a giant shame.

ISAAC BREKKEN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Intolerable? Maybe. But at least she's speaking her mind.

## Moore serves Kutcher papers

**Demi Moore** is finally filing divorce papers to end her marriage with **Ashton Kutcher**, according to TMZ. The news comes 16 months after their initial separation — and three months after Kutcher's own filing. So what was the holdup? A source claims Moore had been trying to reach a confidential settlement with Kutcher about his income but has given up. "Ashton made a lot of money after marrying Demi — a lot more than she made — but despite him becoming just as famous through her, he believes he doesn't owe her that much," the source says. Moore wants spousal support and a lot of it, according to TMZ.

Seems like a fair split: Moore gets millions; Kutcher gets **Mila Kunis**.

## Talking points

### Gyllenhaal's new girlfriend

**Jake Gyllenhaal** has a new lady in his life, and he reportedly met her in a spin class. He and Sports Illustrated swimsuit model **Emily DiDonato** have been dating "for a month or two," a source tells Us Weekly. The pair met at New York's Soul Cycle exercise studio, where Gyllenhaal has been know to work out whenever he's in the city. "He'll hop on the instructor bike," the source says. "He loves the attention from the girls."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Gyllenhaal

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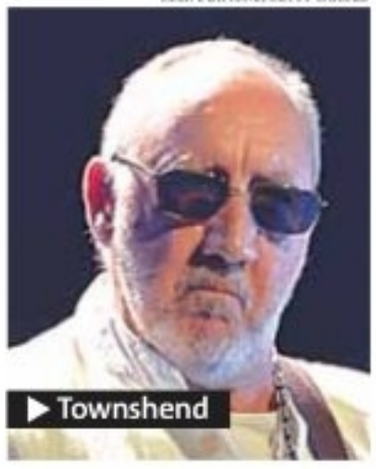
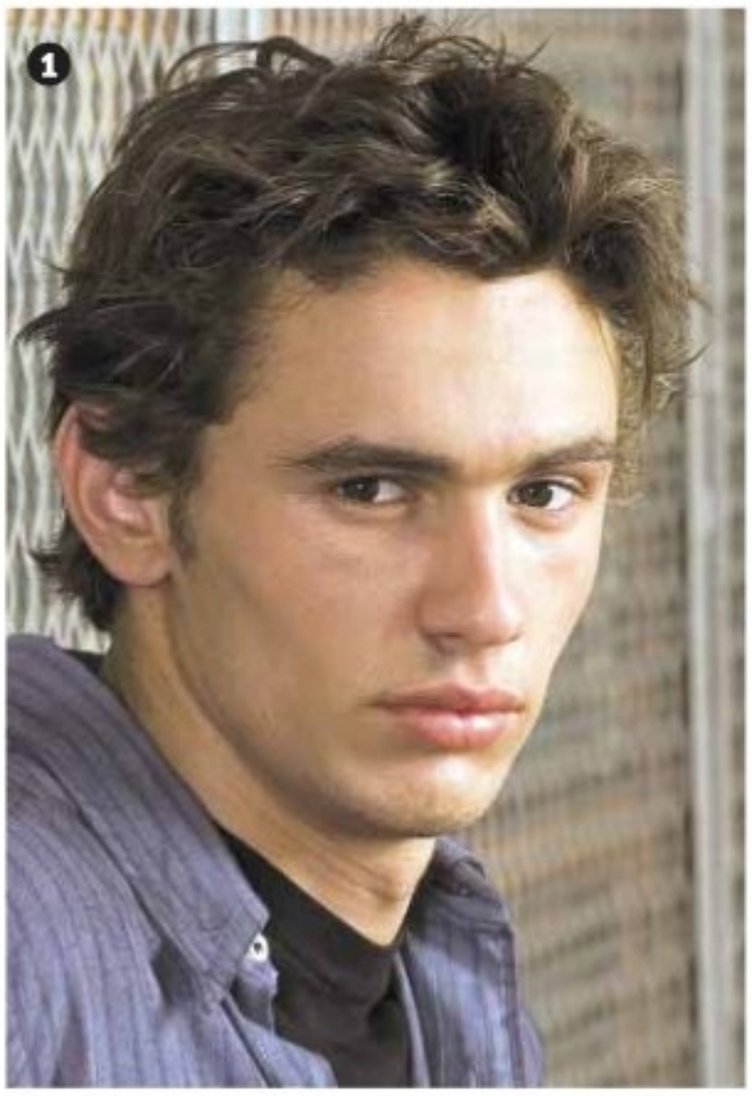
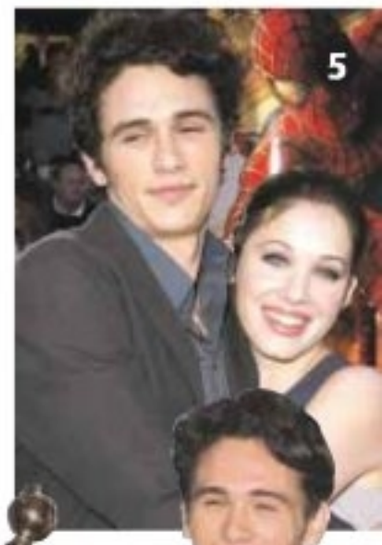


▶ Townshend

### Townshend was in 'rock star mode'

**Pete Townshend** is looking to make amends after apparently swearing at a 7-year-old girl and her parents during a recent concert in Ontario. Townshend became annoyed after spotting a sign that read, "Smash your guitar, Pete!" being held up by the girl. But he feels differently now, according to the Toronto Sun. "Apologies and condolences from my side, and very best wishes to you and your family," Townsend writes in a letter to them. "I was in rock star mode, the big mouth."





## The very best of James Franco

***In honor of his starring role in this weekend's new film, "Oz the Great and Powerful," let's take a trip down memory lane.***

**1** After a bit part in "Never Been Kissed," Franco headed to TV's "Freaks and Geeks," where he played stoner kid Daniel Desario.

**2** Before the peak of his career came the peak of his hair: The actor attended the Hollywood "Requiem For A Dream" premiere in 2000.

**3** A beaming Franco accepted the award for Best Actor in a Miniseries/TV Movie for his role in "James Dean" at the 2002 Golden Globes.

**4** Franco and "Pineapple Express" co-star Seth Rogen helped audience members at MTV's "TRL" (remember that show?) chug pineapple juice in '08.

**5** Franco dated his "Whatever It Takes" co-star Marla Sokoloff on and off for five years, until 2011.

**8** Well, there's a side of Franco we hadn't seen: The actor was photographed in drag by Terry Richardson for the Fall/Winter 2010/2011 issue of Candy magazine.

**7** Franco returned to his soap roots with a guest stint on "General Hospital"

The couple attended the premiere of "Spider-Man," in which Franco starred as Harry Osborn, in 2002.

**6** The actor rocked a serious 'stache at the LA premiere of "127 Hours," for which he was later nominated for a Best Actor Oscar.

in 2011.

**9** Which leads us to today: The actor and his "Oz" co-stars Michelle Williams, Rachel Weisz and Mila Kunis hit the European premiere of "Oz the Great And Powerful" in London at the end of February.

1: NBC/NBCUNIVERSAL
2, 3, 5: SCRANITZ/WIREIMAGE
4: SCOTT GRIES/GETTY IMAGES
6: JON KOPALOFF/FILMMAGIC
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food

# GRAB A PLATE

## Brewer's Plate is back for its ninth year Sample delicious snacks and beers from local restaurants and brewers during the popular Fair Food fundraiser

FAIR FOOD

Brewer's Plate pairs local brewers with local restaurants for a match made in beer heaven.

For food and booze lovers, Brewer's Plate is pretty much nirvana at the Constitution Center. It's an all-you-can-eat-and-drink affair with 20 local and local-ish restaurants and 20 brewers. This fundraiser for Fair Food, happening on Sunday, March 10, is now in its ninth year, so it's safe to say they know what they're doing.

Of course, you can taste and sip however you want, but Fair Food has created a list of pairings that teams a restaurant with a brewer in the hopes of creating the most perfect coupling. Some matchups come naturally, like that of Triumph restaurant and Triumph brewery. Others, though, are not so obvious. Tex Mex barbecue joint El Camino Real, for instance, will enhance its food with the sudsy help of Easton's Weyerbacher. And the classy wine bar and cafe Tria will have at its side beer from the flashy Victory Brewing Company.

Make sure you try the fare from the soon-to-be-opened Cedar Point Bar & Kitchen. Fishtown has been waiting for this promising kitchen to open its doors, so don't skip on the chance to sample their menu.

If you want to shell out a few more bucks — and why not, it is a fundraiser, after all — there are VIP tickets. Sometimes VIP tickets don't get you much more than an early entrance and a chance to mingle with the pros, but this time that's not the case. VIPs will be able to enjoy a "tutored tasting" with Aimee Olexy, co-owner of Talula's Garden. And to keep up the theme or pairings, local cheese makers are matching their goods with a selected brewer. Plus, the lucky VIPs can try a Victory brew so new it's not even on the shelves yet. Take that, general admission! And finally, the main reason we can see for going VIP is Weckerly's "Man Full of Trouble" ice cream. It's porter-flavored ice cream with chocolate-covered shortbread, and it's reason enough for us.

Sample the offerings from local cheese makers during Brewer's Plate.

**Julia West**
*letters@metro.us*

### A sample of pairings

*Many of the participating restaurants are keeping quiet about what they're making, but a few have leaked the info.*

- Scrapple sliders from White Dog Cafe with Dogfish's Chicory Stout
- Mortadella hot dogs from Alla Spina with Stoudt's Karnival Kolsch
- Grilled cheese with BBQ portabella and apple slaw from Cedar Point with Boxcar's Mango Ginger IPA

### If you go

**Brewer's Plate**
**Sunday, March 10**
**National Constitution Center**
**525 Arch St.**
**6 to 9 p.m.**
**$70 general admission, $140 for VIP**

### Do this first

*Before they head over to Brewer's Plate, Nate Saar and Steve Koch of Bullfrog Brewery will be at Devil's Den on 11th and Ellsworth for the restaurant's boozy Bullfrog Brunch, marking the debut of Bullfrog in Philly.*

Saar and Koch plan to pre-game for Brewer's Plate with their own Edgar IPA, Aggro Funky Witbier, Sacre Bleu Blueberry Farmhouse and Pomme Par Jour Apple Farmhouse. All Bullfrog drafts and flights will be $1 off from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. RACHEL VIGODA

Parade tips

### Get ready for St. Patrick's Day festivities

*The Irish — and the Irish-for-the-week — will once again gather on the streets of Center City as the 243rd annual St. Patrick's Day Parade makes its way through town Sunday, March 10.*

Thousands of participants will be out on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway from noon to 4 p.m. South Philadelphia native Harry Marnie, a former Philadelphia Phillie, is this year's grand marshal.

For those who will be continuing their early St. Patrick's Day festivities from the night before, make sure your green beer is concealed and you're behind parade tape. The traditional Irish dancers need the room.

The parade starts at 16th and JFK and ends at Lemon Hill. The main performance area is in front of the Art Museum, so the best viewing areas include Logan Circle and the museum steps.

Don't forget it's Daylight Saving on Sunday. You won't want to miss this jig. CHRISTINA PACIOLLA

food

# Pastry chef Angela Ranalli wants to eat sweets, not brains

**The chef is keeping tradition alive at Le Virtu on East Passyunk When she's not cooking, she's busy reading tarot cards for mayors**

## Hot chef

Angela Ranalli, the beloved pastry chef at Le Virtu, is all about keeping it old-school. Her recipes harken back generations, as does her mystical pastime. In an age where, as Ranalli points out, many people are losing touch with traditions, this chef is holding on tight, and pleasing a city full of sweet tooths in the process.

**You grew up in a family where cooking and sharing was very important.**
Oh yeah. We used to make cookies and cannolis and bring them to flea markets and festivals. We went to the Garden State Racetrack and Super Sunday on the Parkway. I want to do that now. I sent in my application for the Farm to City Market. I want to take my 5-year-old son with me. Even though it was four of us working the festivals when I was a kid, he'll keep that tradition going.

**So keeping traditions alive is important to you?**
Absolutely! I find that today people tend to move away from their traditions. Some traditions you just gotta stick with. Like, you can't make Easter bread unless it's Easter Sunday. Otherwise the bread won't rise. It sounds silly, but it's what my grandmother would tell me.

**So, in a nontraditional way, you're going to judge the 4th Annual Chili Bowl at Ruba Club Studios.**
I became a judge by accident, really. See, people know that I love spicy food. My friend Scott Schroeder from South Philly Tap Room tweeted the person running the event and said, 'I bet Angela would agree to judge.' I tweeted back saying, 'Yeah, sure I'm in.' Then I realized that the contestants can put anything in the chili. Using the whole animal is a big trend now, and I don't want to eat brains. Maybe this competition will break my fear of organ meat? But I really don't want to eat brains.

**Julia West**
*julia.west@metro.us*

### Q&A

**I heard that you read tarot cards. Is that right?**
[Laughs] Who told you that? Yes, I do. My great-grandmother used to do astrology. Once I was old enough, she taught me, too. It's a tradition that I stick with. I've been working, reading cards, for 13 years for soothsayers. I've read Mayor Street's cards, and Mayor Bloomburg's before he was even mayor.

Angela Ranalli whips up delectable pastries at Le Virtu.

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0365 - Rendleman, Lionel • 0485 - Nsekhe, Nkere • 0533 - West, Wade • 0549 - Pettus, Leah
0630 - Price, Skyline • 0816 - Hinson, Sean • 0827 - Virgilio, Veronica • 0841 - Hilliard - Mclain, Kimberly
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D424 Moses, John • D447 Royal, Rolanda • I936 Edwards, Elizabeth
J1260 Schroeder, Dale • M1138 Morales, Alberto • N1448 Gorsunov, Eugene
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G0412 Lain Jr, Joseph • H0493 Shore, Irl • I0596 Liddell, Thomas • J0671 Grande, Terry
J0703 Blair, Keith • K0943 Goettelmann, Ann • L0969 Flores- Ortiz, Hector
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# Not for tourists

## SideTour is launching in Philly The company creates experiences off the beaten path, from dinners to art tours

SIDETOUR

Andrew Wood of Russet is a pig expert.

The first SideTour event in Philadelphia started with house-made Limoncello, which one diner quietly remarked tasted like Tostitos Hint of Lime. But he had no complaints about the next four courses brought out by chef/owner Andrew Wood at the Center City restaurant Russet, which included umbrian-style salami and a slow-roasted suckling pig.

And everyone seemed pleased by what the chef presented as an digestif, after overhearing a few guests debate their edibility: the pig's ears.

The Russet dinner, a pig-themed extravaganza complete with detailed explanations of the food and a tour of Wood's charcuterie-preservation room, was a preview of the type of events SideTour is bringing to the city. The company, officially launching in Philly on Monday, already has a presence in New York, Chicago and Boston, where it "scouts hosts who are passionate about something and helps them put together experiences," says Andrea Li of SideTour.

Those hosts might be restaurateurs like Wood, muralists, blacksmiths, historians or something else entirely. In New York, one regular host is a former investment banker who became a monk. He invites groups to share a meal in his East Village monastery and learn about monk life.

SideTour helps set up and market the events — and takes a cut of the profits — but hosts decide how often to hold events, how many people to invite, and what to charge.

"Ninety-five percent of the guests are locals. It's not for people who want a tourist experience. It's for people looking for something hard to find," Li says. "It's a way to see a piece of the city you don't usually have access to."

**Rachel Vigoda**
*rachel.vigoda@metro.us*

### The details

Prices for SideTour events range from $20 to $80; the average is about $50. To see what's on tap, go to **www.sidetour.com/cities/philly**.

### Sign up for these

- Toast to Tiki culture while learning how to make daiquiris and mai tais with Mike Treffehn of Franklin Mortgage and Investment Co.
- Indulge in a suckling pig feast at Russet, with chef and owner Andrew Wood.
- Paint with Mural Arts Program artist Betsy Casanma.
- Tour Old City's Colonial taverns and sip craft beers with beer historian Rich Wagner.
- Get the insider scoop at the Philadelphia Museum of Art with artist Craig Stover.

# Hop on board the Craft Beer Express

It's OK to drink before noon, as long as you're sipping a local craft beer. On Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Craft Beer Express will host a day-long pub crawl, with transportation to 11 participating bars and enough drink specials to keep you going all day.

Tickets are $10 and guarantee you a seat on the CBX bus, which we assure is cheaper than paying for cabs all day. Just purchase a ticket from one of the 11 bars, either online at www.craftbeerexpress.com or in person at the bar. Then head to that bar in the morning and start drinking. Pause to make comments about the hoppiness or seasonality of your beer. When you're ready to change venue, hop on one of the buses to check out any of the other spots. Buses run every 25 minutes.

The participating bars — scattered all over the city, from Fishtown to Easy Passyunk — include Kraftwork, Johnny Brenda's, The Institute, Bishop's Collar, Kite & Key, Jose Pistola's, Sidecar, Pub on East Passyunk, Devil's Den, Brauhaus Schmitz and Race Street Cafe.

METRO/RV

### Best beer bets

- **Johnny Brenda's** is putting the focus on local stouts, from the dry Irish variety to Russian imperial.
- **Kraftwork** will be pouring Two Brothers Brewing's gluten-free golden ale, for the allergic beer lovers.
- **Race Street Cafe** is toasting the end of winter with dark ales.
- **Jose Pistola's** is serving up Orkney's Skull Splitter. Good luck.

food

# Cut the sodium, not the taste, from your food

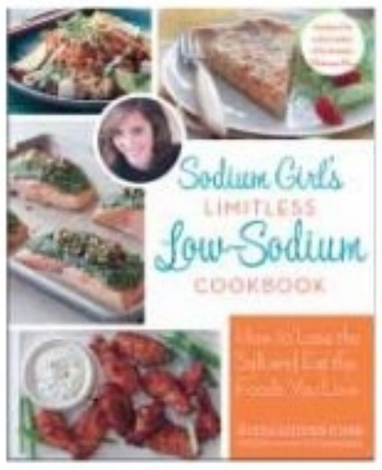
After being diagnosed with kidney failure as a result of lupus, Jessica Goldman Foung changed her way of eating. She experimented with recipes, including high-sodium offenders like bloody marys and pad thai, to cut the salt but keep the taste. "Low-so food is just Slow Food with the letters switched around," she says. "It is about getting back to the kitchen, using fresh and flavorful ingredients — which is never a bad thing and usually results not only in healthier food, but more exciting meals."

▶ Pad thai, everyone's favorite Thai takeout dish, contains "a bomb of salt," says Goldman Foung. For her healthier recipe packed with umami flavor, visit www.metro.us.

Her new cookbook, "Sodium Girl's Limitless Low-Sodium Cookbook" contains 100-plus creative dishes that are packed with flavor without the guilt. Foung tells why we should pay more attention to what's on the dinner table.

**Why should people cut back on sodium?**

The sodium problem doesn't start with the salt shaker, but [with] processed foods. On average, Americans eat more than 3,500 milligrams of sodium a day — way over the higher limit of 2,500 a day. But on top of that, salt has become synonymous with flavor. So when we cut back on salt and processed items, we are forced to start exploring other spices, herbs and ingredients — not to mention techniques that help enhance the foods.




**What are some foods guilty of being high-sodium?**

People are shocked to find out kitchen staples like milk (more than 100 milligrams per cup for that bowl of Raisin Bran and latte), cereal (generally more than 200 milligrams per cup), bread (more than 200 milligrams per slice) and baked goods (bagels can be almost 500 milligrams without the cream cheese) are quite high in sodium. And that's before sandwiches, soups, salty snacks and dinner enter the picture. METRO

**Cut it out**

### What are some tips on cutting sodium when eating out?

It is important to know how food is cooked in restaurants.

For example, most vegetables and grains get blanched or boiled in salted water. So it is always best to call a day ahead when possible to ask that fresh ingredients be left aside for your meal.

And it is essential to know that words like cured, marinated, brined, pickled and breaded generally mean the starring protein has encountered some sort of salty solution or rub. So these are menu items that need to be avoided or altered.

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## Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Associates will be more inclined to accept your political or philosophical concepts if you don't present them in a heavy-handed manner. Keep things light and cheerful.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Difficult developments aren't likely to intimidate you, and you'll have no trouble handling them competently. Yet, surprisingly, you could get upset over something that should be fun.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although your mate's point of view may be on the somber side, you'll see only the positive aspect of things. Try to help brighten his or her perspective as well.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Even if you feel you deserve far better, try to be grateful for what you get. Do your best to keep your expectations within reasonable bounds.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Guard against inclinations to speculate in unfamiliar areas. It's never a good day to gamble on things about which you know little or nothing.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Although you'll have a great deal of compassion for others, you aren't likely to know how to express it. At least you'll know why your behavior is eliciting a negative response.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Do not expect to get more labor out of co-workers than you're prepared to give yourself. If you want them to work hard, you'll need to do the same.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Be generous with those who need it, but be careful not to be manipulated by someone who's asking for something that he or she doesn't deserve.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Putting forth maximum effort is admirable, but don't be so determined to achieve your objective that you end up doing everything the hard way. That would only slow you down.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Usually you're fairly optimistic about most everything in life, but you could step out of character and be a defeatist. Don't start playing this unproductive role.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Problems of all sorts, even social ones, cannot be resolved if you deny their existence. Instead of burying them, put them under the sunshine where you can clearly deal with them.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Anybody who cannot help you attain your objective should not be involved in your endeavor. All their contributions and input might do is stymie your efforts even further.

**BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

### Solution to yesterday's crossword

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## Letters

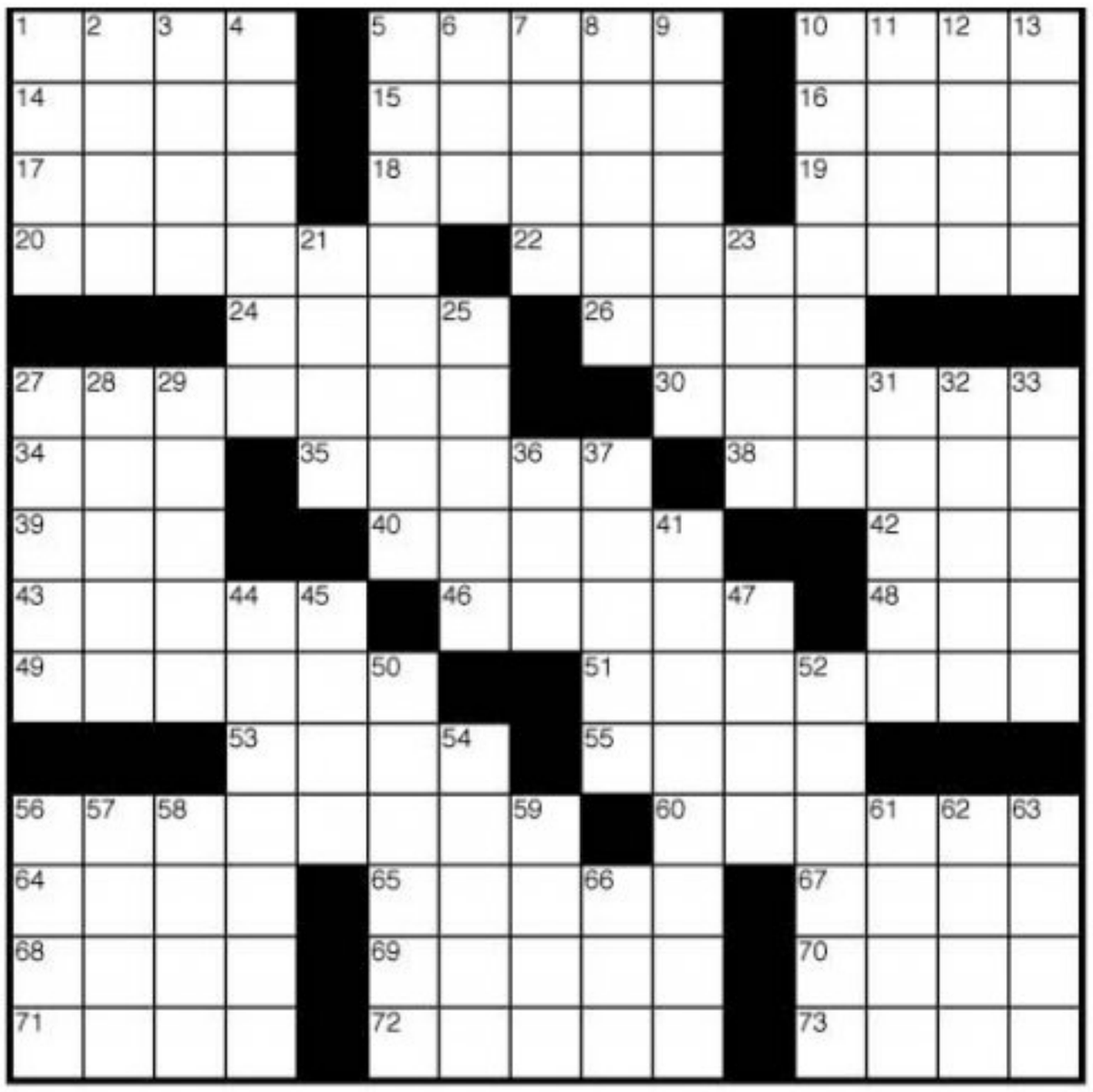
### Putting the animal versus human debate to rest

**RE: THE ANIMAL/HUMAN DEBATE (METRO, FEB.-MARCH)** While not trying to silence anyone's opinion, I wish to put the debate to rest over whether humans are more important or better partners than animals, or vice versa. Some people feel more loved and accepted by animals than by their fellow humans, which isn't very hard to see if you've ever had a pet — or a bad relationship. Some people, especially those with children, couldn't fathom how an animal could possibly be viewed as more important or more worth saving than a human being. Both opinions are held, both are legitimate, and no amount of arguing will change anyone's mind. Acknowledge and accept each other's opinions as such; it will not weaken your argument. Perhaps we could talk about garnering a wider acceptance and reducing the stigma over seeking mental health assistance so something like this does not happen again.

**ANNIE FERRIS, VIA E-MAIL**

### Apple iPhone owners are taxpayers, too

**RE: A LETTER CALLING NYPD IPHONE CONCERN "WASTEFUL" OF TAXPAYER MONEY** Victims of iPhone theft are taxpayers, too, and theft of iPhones or any other Apple products in NYC is a crime and the perpetrators are criminals and therefore an NYPD concern. NYPD is not only trying to recover iPhones to return them to their rightful owners but is doing its job to curb, if not totally eliminate, theft crimes and to arrest these criminals. Theft of Apple gadgets is one of the highest crimes in NYC and the police task force should be commended for their efforts. As taxpayers, victims of iPhone thefts would be happy to know that their tax money is being used for the right efforts. My iPhone was new, purchased at full price and only to be stolen from my desk at the office within the five minutes I stepped away; yes, it's most probably a co-worker who stole it and this makes him worse and lower than the common thieves in the NYC streets and it will bring me great pleasure to not only recover my new iPhone but to see the workplace thief behind bars or fined 10 times the value of the iPhone. **MAY CLOSE, VIA E-MAIL**



**Across**
1 Hoarfrost
5 Fend off
10 Large fishhook
14 OPEC member
15 Pale
16 Culture medium
17 In — (as found)
18 Makes level
19 Moon, to a centurion
20 Manor
22 Worst of all
24 Diet
26 Cookout
27 Root vegetable
30 Afternoon nap
34 Shade
35 Thumbs-up votes
38 Lomond and Ness
39 Regal emblem
40 Clean energy
42 Indiana Jones quest
43 Brother's daughter
46 La Scala site
48 Spike or Bruce
49 Cream-filled pastry
51 Pried
53 Dracula's — Stoker
55 Aussie rock group
56 Brought about
60 Listened to
64 Secluded valley
65 Leave in awe
67 Pretentious
68 Opening
69 Pyle of sitcoms
70 "— drummers drumming . . ."
71 Dr.'s visit
72 Hairpin curves
73 Bandy words

**Down**
1 Swell, as a river
2 Rainbow goddess
3 Marshal Dillon
4 Social peers
5 Dears
6 Hebrew T
7 Ice skater's leap
8 Cobra toxin
9 Happens next
10 Early astronomer
11 Feverish chill
12 Ceiling fixtures
13 Toga party site
21 Like microbes
23 Ride a windjammer
25 — salts
27 Get in touch with
28 Mr. Goldfinger
29 Refuse to obey
31 Cut too short
32 — Dog Night
33 Set a price
36 Yale athlete
37 Tex-Mex dip
41 Stock holders?
44 Kitchen fixture
45 Blarney Stone site
47 Twig juncture
50 Do ruinous damage to
52 Barracuda habitats
54 Quick reminders
56 Turkish title
57 Filly's footfall
58 Call to a lifeguard
59 River tamers
61 Roof problem
62 Still-active volcano
63 Batik artisan
66 Mark of Zorro

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| 2 | | 9 | 7 | 4 | | | | |

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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# Pronger not retiring, out of a 'dark place'

**Former captain knows Flyers' days are over ◗ Lost peripheral vision, still gets headaches ◗ Won't retire due to cap structure**

In one breath, Chris Pronger says this isn't goodbye. In the next, ironically, he makes it perfectly clear he won't be coming back to play for the Flyers.

It's Ironic because, due to the severity of the eye injury he suffered from a stick in October 2011, along with subsequent concussions that continue to give him headaches on a regular basis, little in his life is perfectly clear.

The 38-year-old defenseman, a former league MVP and five-time All-Star, spent just more than two years with the Flyers after coming over in a 2009 trade from Anaheim. On Thursday, Pronger admitted he still gets symptoms after any strenuous activity. He can't run or make any sudden movements, let alone skate and absorb contact from all angles.

His peripheral vision, or what he refers to as his "sixth sense" of knowing who is around him and anticipating what's about to happen next, is gone. Pronger still experiences headaches, fatigue and dizziness, often without warning. Not only that, but doctors tell him there's little chance his vision will improve.

**Quoted**

**"Things happen for a reason. I don't wallow in, 'Why me?' now, though I'm sure I did for a few months."**

**CHRIS PRONGER**

Yet, largely because the Flyers are still on the hook for three more years and $18 million thanks to the way the NHL salary cap is configured, it works to the team's benefit to keep his status open. That means Pronger won't officially retire.

"I am presently trying to get healthy and work towards [playing again]," said Pronger, publicly addressing his condition for the first time in more than a year. "I still have symptoms with loud noises and a lot of moving parts. It's not to the level it was, but I still get them. My doctor says I have significant vulnerabilities he's worried about which may or may not go away. Once I continue with my rehab, we'll see where we're at."

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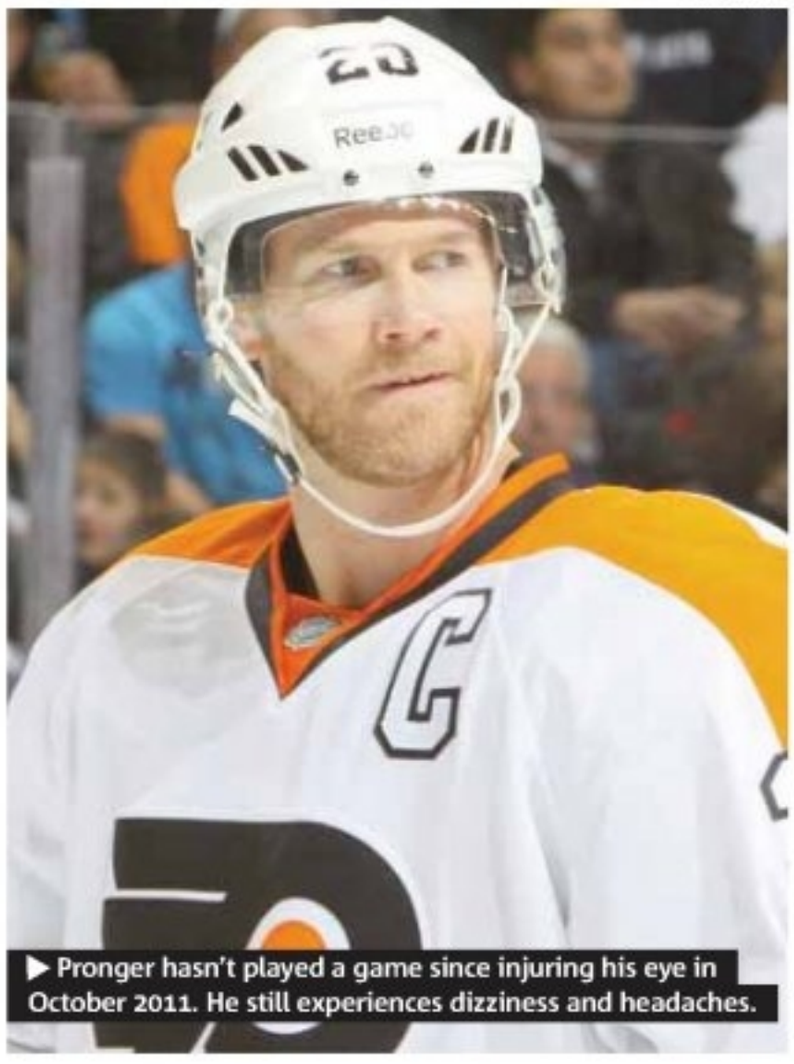

▶ Pronger hasn't played a game since injuring his eye in October 2011. He still experiences dizziness and headaches.

**Jon Marks**
*sports@metro.us*

## Former All-Star finally ready to 'turn the page'

Chris Pronger realizes there are no miracles that will resuscitate his brilliant career, one that includes winning a Stanley Cup and two Olympic gold medals.

He's just relieved the bouts of depression that he admits left him in a "dark place" — yet never to the extent he considered doing something drastic — have subsided. Now his long-term goal is to get as healthy as possible and be a good husband and father.

"Things happen for a reason," said Pronger, who has done some scouting for the Flyers, though he doesn't seem to think it's a new career path. "I don't wallow in, 'Why me?' now, though I'm sure I did for a few months. Eventually you have to turn the page."

Even though he refuses to admit it, unofficially, it's apparent Chris Pronger finally has.

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As fantasy owners, we can gain value from the unknown. Our opponents may not even be aware these rookies exist, allowing us to steal them late:

## Eaton up

We're not talking about the Adam Eaton that got booed out of Philadelphia as a starting pitcher. This **Adam Eaton** is a super-athletic, 24-year-old speedster that has a chance to be this year's mini-version of Trout. In 130 minor league games last year, he hit .375 with seven homers and 44 steals. The Diamondbacks traded away **Justin Upton** knowing they'll be fine with Eaton batting leadoff and playing centerfield every day.

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Miller, 22, started six games last season and struck out 16 in just 13 2/3 innings.

## Miller time

It feels like Cardinals starter **Shelby Miller** has been on the prospect scene forever, but he's just 22 years old. And when he finally got his major-league call-up last year, all that seasoning in the minors showed. Miller appeared in just six games, but posted a 1.32 ERA and struck out 16 batters in 13 2/3 innings thanks to a devastating curveball. With the Cardinals' starting rotation annually banged up, Miller is a great bet to throw at least 150 innings this year.

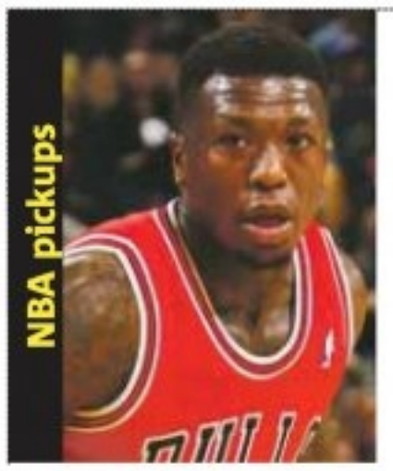
## Wil the thrill

Everyone knows a Will, but how many people know a Wil? The Rays are desperate for a difference-maker offensively, so they'll be willing to live with **Wil Myers**'s high strikeout rate as soon as June. He was the most potent hitter in the minors last season, belting 37 homers and hitting .314 between Double-A and Triple-A. There's not a prospect around with more pop in his bat.

## Rivera calling it a career for the Yankees

Longtime Yankees closer Mariano Rivera will announce his retirement Saturday, according to the New York Post.

Rivera is set to make his first appearance of the spring March 9 against Atlanta. Rivera will address the media at 10 a.m. He'll retire as the all-time leader in saves (608). METRO



**NBA pickups**

**Nate Robinson**

**PG, Bulls**
Incumbent starter Kirk Hinrich can't seem to shake the injury bug. In the meantime, Robinson is averaging 6.4 assists, 1.9 steals and 1.7 3-pointers per game as a starter.

**Tobias Harris**

**SF, Magic**
Harris is proving to be more than a throw-in piece in the trade for J.J. Redick. Harris has the makings of a core piece for Orlando. He is averaging 17.8 points per game over the last six.

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# Ruf explodes for three RBIs in Phillies defeat

**Designated hitter flashes hot bat in defeat ◗ Lee touched up in 3 2/3 innings of work ◗ Brown raises batting average to .400**

Darin Ruf finally found his groove. Hopefully it's not too late.

Ruf exploded for three RBIs on Thursday, matching his spring high after doubling in two runs and singling home another one. Unfortunately for Ruf, the Phillies lost 10-6 to the Minnesota Twins.

Ruf, with a legitimate chance to win a starting outfield job, has struggled in Grapefruit League play. He is batting .185 after going 2-for-4 vs. the Twins. Ruf has also looked out of sorts trying to chase down fly balls in the outfield. On Thursday, he served as designated hitter.

Against Minnesota, Chase Utley, Erik Kratz and Ben Revere added RBIs as the Phils jumped out to a 6-1 lead. Domonic Brown continued his stellar play by going 2-for-4. He raised his spring average to .400.

"I'm feeling good, feeling healthy. That's the key," Brown said.

Cliff Lee started for the Phils and allowed two runs on four hits in 3 2/3 innings. The Twins rallied for eight runs off four different relievers, including five (four earned) against Zach Miner.

Kyle Kendrick takes the mound Friday at 1:05 p.m. against Tampa Bay. Closer Jonathan Papelbon is also slated to pitch for the first time since giving up two runs in one inning. Ryan Howard has his first scheduled day off.

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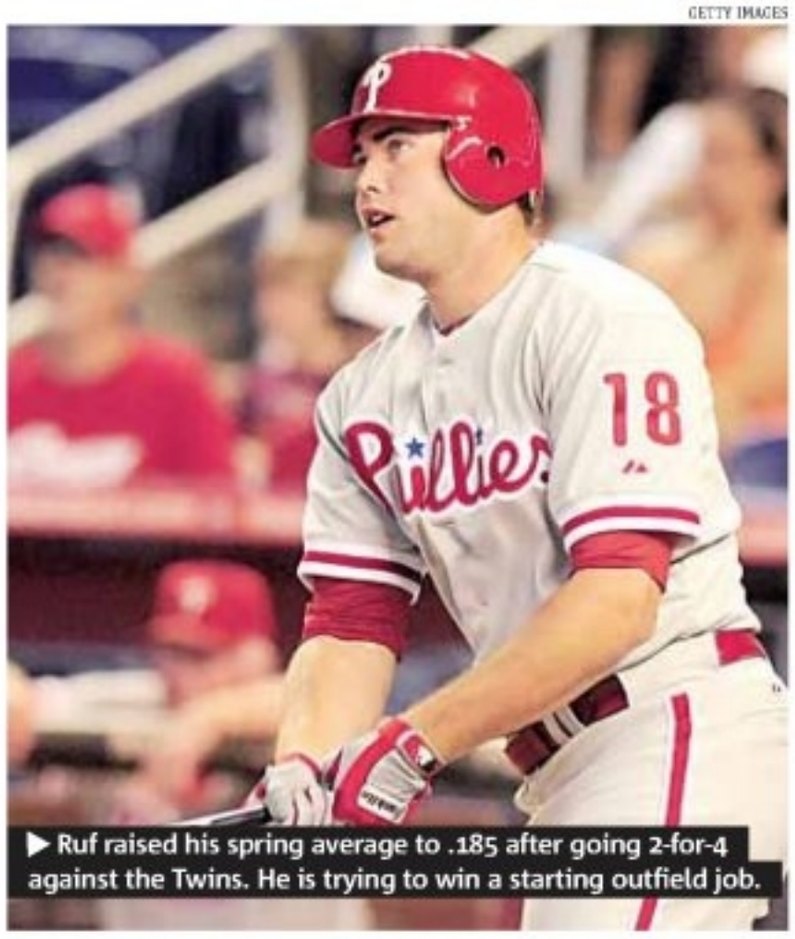

▶ Ruf raised his spring average to .185 after going 2-for-4 against the Twins. He is trying to win a starting outfield job.


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